

AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

**PRICE 7d.**



**LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK.**—Notice is hereby given, that the BLOOMSBURY and EASTERN BRANCHES of this Establishment will be OPENED on Monday, the 4th, instead of Friday, the 1st of January. The opening of the Southwark Branch is unavoidably postponed on account of the premises not being ready. By order of the Board,  
JAMES WILLIAM GILBERT, General Manager.

**HASTINGS IMPROVEMENT COMPANY,** to be incorporated by Act of Parliament.—Capital £200,000, in 4,000 Shares of £50 each. The advantages to capitalists and builders are extraordinary, and without risk, as the ground to be built upon is situated in the centre of the borough, having an uninterrupted marine prospect over extensive pleasure grounds, and is secure from encroachments of the sea. Applications for Shares to be addressed, post paid, to Messrs. Smith, Hilder, and Co., Bankers, Hastings, or Messrs. Barber and Son, Cowper's-court, Cornhill. Prospectuses are ready for delivery.

**NORTHERN and EASTERN RAILWAY,** according to the PLANS laid down by James Walker, Esq.

#### LONDON COMMITTEE.

The Earl of Euston, M.P. Suffolk  
Sir J. Axtley, Bt., M.P., Norfolk  
J. Angerstein, Esq., M.P., London  
B. Alston, Esq., M.P., Herts  
R. Gardiner Alston, Esq., Herts  
Sir H. Bedingfield, Bart., Norfolk  
Sir T. B. Bever, Bart., Norfolk  
J. Bughaw, Esq., M.P., London  
Sir W. J. H. B. Folkes, Bart., M.P., Norfolk  
Col. Sir R. J. Harvey, C.B.E.T.S. Norfolk  
Charles Johnston, Esq., Herts  
The Committee feel it due to the subscribers to the undertaking, and to the public who take an interest in it, to inform them that the Parliamentary plans and sections have been deposited with all the Clerks of the Peace along the line, and now lie for inspection at the office of the Company. The Committee are happy to inform the subscribers, that the returns of traffic made from actual examination upon the spot, show a much larger income than they had calculated on. The valuation of the farming land on the line by Messrs. Driver, and of the building land by Mr. Hardwick, is in progress, and the application to Parliament for a bill will be made immediately on its meeting on the 4th of February.

CHAR. ROWCROFT, } Secretaries.  
SEPTIMUS HODGES, }

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY,** in continuation of the Blackwall Railway.—Capital £200,000, divided into 4,000 shares of £50 each; deposit of £25 per share.

This line is adopted with the view of continuing the London and Blackwall railway as an inlet into the metropolis through Barking, Dagenham, Rainham, Gray's, Hole-Haven, Leigh, to Southend, with branches to Ilford, Purfleet, Romford, Tilbury Port, Mucking, Rochford, and other trading places on the line of road. The distance by land to Southend is 44 miles; by the railway it will be 34, thereby saving 10 miles.

The objects of this railway are not founded upon speculation, but upon the increase that already exists between the trading towns on the line, and for improving the very fertile county of Essex.

Applications for shares and prospectuses, stating fully the objects of the undertaking, to be made to the bankers, Messrs. Laidbroke, Kingscote, and Co., Bank-buildings, to Messrs. Sparrow and Co., bankers, Chelmsford; James Lambert, Esq., Barking; to the solicitor, Thomas Brown, Esq., 11, Mark-lane, Fenchurch-street London; Messrs. Colport and Knappett, solicitors, Rochford; or to the secretary, at the Railway offices, 11, Mark-lane; which will be submitted to the Directors for their approbation and allotment.

Railway offices, 11, Mark-lane. G. COLE, Sec.

**ANTI DRY-ROT COMPANY.—KYAN'S PATENT.**—10,000 Shares, 1st. each.

Directors.—Thomas Phillips, Esq., Chairman.  
W. H. Vigers, Esq., Deputy Chairman.  
Thomas Starling Benson, Esq.,  
William Borradaile, Esq.,  
George Borradaile, Esq.,  
Charles Enderby, Esq.,  
Francis Mills, Esq.,  
Francis Sayte, Esq.,

#### LIVERPOOL.

Charles Horsfall, Esq.

#### BIRMINGHAM.

Francis Lloyd, Esq. Theophilus Richards, Esq.

Engineers.—M. J. Brunel, Esq.  
Bankers.—Messrs. Vere, Saps, and Co.  
Solicitors.—Messrs. Hall, Thompson, and Sewell.

Secretary (pro tem).—Charles Terry, Esq.

The indisputable testimonials given by men of the first talent and experience in the kingdom, as to the perfect reliance that may be placed upon Kyan's process of preparing timber to resist the effect of dry rot and other decay, are so entirely satisfactory as to require no further remark.

The efficacy of the process is sufficiently established by the evidence contained in the report to the Lords of the Admiralty, and subsequently presented to, and printed by, the House of Commons; and likewise by the adoption of it by His Majesty's Government in Portsmouth Dockyard.

Extracts from minutes of evidence reported by the Commissioners appointed by the Admiralty, and presented to the House of Commons, July 9, 1833.—

Sir R. Smirke.—"This preparation of Mr. Kyan's resists all rot." "I cannot rot it." "I added R. Smirke." "These reasons, combined with a close examination of specimens shown him, make him strongly recommend it; and he would be quite willing, if there were occasion, to trust a good deal of property upon it."

Sir John May.—"In regard to the canvass, four prepared pieces were not affected with mildew; three unprepared pieces were affected with it, and one of them was quite rotten."

By the use of this process British American timber will be rendered equally as valuable as timber from the Baltic, and thus the produce of British Colonies will be encouraged to timber of foreign growth.

It is found that timber cut down while in a state of active vegetation, with the leaf growing, becomes, by the application of this process, immediately fit for use—thus rendering every species of domestic timber of the same value and as available as the best foreign for all purposes incidental to farming and husbandry;—and, by the use of the most common woods, economy will be combined with durability, and the agricultural interest will derive incalculable advantages.

These facts having been proved in the most satisfactory manner, it is proposed that a Company be formed, under a licence from the patentee, the consideration for which has been agreed upon, and the above gentlemen have been named to carry that object into effect.

Applications for shares to be made, post paid, to the Secretary, at the office of the Company, 2, Line street-square, Leadenhall-street, London, where prospectuses may be had, and further particulars obtained.

No applications for shares can be received after the 30th of January, as the Directors will appropriate the shares on Thursday, the 31st of January.

**THE DURHAM SOUTH-WEST JUNCTION RAILWAY.**—Capital 20,000, in 1000 Shares of 20 each. Deposit 3s. per Share.

Provisional Committee.—Captain J. K. Forbes.  
Henry G. Key, Esq.  
John Labouchere, Esq.  
R. M. Noble, Esq.  
John Prince Esq.  
F. S. Stokes, Esq.  
Thomas Wilson, Esq.

With power to add to their Number. Committee in the North to be hereafter named.

Bankers.—The Darlington Joint Stock Banking Company.—Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co. London.

Engineers.—Solicitor.—Thomas Weldon, Esq., Barnard Castle.

Parliamentary Agents.—Messrs. Jones and Walsley.

This Rail-Road is projected for the transit of the Coal of the Great Auckland Coal Field by the shortest and most direct line to the place of shipment, at Port Clarence, in the River Tees, and also for the convenience of the Lead, Lime, and other minerals, and General Merchandise, of the important district of the South Western portion of the County of Durham. It will also possess the facility of affording the most ready communication for Passengers to Stockton and its neighbourhood.

The quality of the Coal in the Great Auckland Coal Field having been fully established in the London and Coasting Markets, the increasing demand is now unfolding the immense resources of the district, and has caused the sinking of new pits, and fresh workings are also projected, and when it is considered that for quality and cheapness of production the Auckland Collieries are inferior to none, it is obvious that a Rail-Road communication affording the cheapest and most direct outlet to the Coal Owners, will be advantageous to them, and very profitable to the parties establishing it.

The proposed line of Rail-Road will form a junction by the Clifton Branch of the Clarence Railway, which terminates at Port Clarence on the River Tees, where vessels load and unload, having a depth of 18 feet at low water, and proceed direct out to sea.

It is now generally admitted that the Clarence Railway is the finest line for the transit of coals, from having superior gradients, and an unequalled shipping-place for the loading and dispatch of Collieries and other vessels.

A Rail-Road possessing the peculiar advantages of the Durham South-West Junction by intersecting in its entire line a valuable Coal district, already in extensive operation in Working Collieries, communicating with the towns of Bishop Auckland, and St. Helen's Auckland, and the populous district surrounding them, combined with advantages before alluded to, and a very moderate Capital required for the complete execution of the line cannot fail to prove a good investment, and the return of profits by professional men, from surveys and particular inspection of the district, is estimated on a scale of moderate rates to be capable of yielding a profitable return.

It is also to be observed that the consumption of the coal supplied from the Northern Collieries is greatly increasing, both at home and abroad, and with the prospect of a continued annual increase must eventually benefit all lines of Rail-road connected with the transit of coal.

The requisite notices have been given, the plan, sections, and books of reference have been lodged, and application will be made in the ensuing session for an Act of Parliament.

Half the amount of Capital is apportioned to residents in the neighbourhood of the projected measure, the remainder to be applied for to  
GEORGE CHILDS, Esq.  
Secretary to the Clarence Railway Company.  
No. 7, Birch Lane, London.

N.B. A great portion of the shares being already subscribed for, applications for the remainder must be made as above, on or before Wednesday, the 13th inst.

**CORNWALL.**  
**TO BE SOLD** by private Contract, the Fee Simple and Inheritance of and in all that CAPITAL BARTON and FARM, comprising two Tenements called *Tregow and Little Baskillick*, situate in the several Parishes of Alton and St. Clether, in the county of Cornwall, now and for many years last past in the occupation of Mr. Richard Northey, consisting of a convenient Farm House, with Barns, Stables, and other suitable Outhouses; about 130 Acres of Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land, and about 180 Acres of Commons and Marsh Grounds, affording a most desirable Pasture for sheep. The Premises are held on Lease by Mr. Northey, for a term of 14 years from Michaelmas, 1832, at the clear rack rent of 1000. per annum; have lately undergone a thorough repair, and are well supplied with water, and possess the advantages of good roads, excellent markets, and great facilities of communication with all parts of the kingdom, being only about one mile from Five Lanes (through which the mail and other coaches pass daily), and within convenient distances of Launceston and several other market towns; and in all probability the great Bodmin and Wadebridge Rail Road will be extended to its immediate neighbourhood. This property offers great inducements to gentlemen of capital, as affording an opportunity for safe investment, and more especially to gentlemen disposed to embark in mining speculations, as there are several Lodes of Tin, Copper, Manganese, and other metals intersecting and running through the lands; and a stream work has lately been commenced by a most respectable company of adventurers, which, from discoveries already made, promises considerable profit to the proprietor, who will part with the whole or a moiety of the minerals as may be most agreeable to a purchaser. For a view of the property apply to the tenant, and for further information to Mr. Thomas Rogers, Solicitor, Helston, Cornwall.—Dated 24th Dec. 1833.—N.B. All Letters must be post-paid.

**TO ENGINEERS and FOUNDERS.**—The Directors of the SOUTH POLGOOTH TIN and COPPER MINING COMPANY are ready to receive tenders for a STEAM ENGINE of Thirty-five H.P. Cylinder, to be delivered on the Mine, near St. Austle, in the county of Cornwall. Specification and other particulars may be had at the office of the Company, and tenders will be received till the 21st day of January.  
30, Basinghall-street. R. N. PADDON, Sec.

**ROYAL POLBEROU CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.**

**AT A MEETING** held at the GEORGE and VULTURE TAVERN, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, on Wednesday, the 20th of December, 1833, W. K. DEHANY, Esq. in the Chair.

The Report of the Directors having been read, the following resolution was carried unanimously:  
Resolved that the Report of the Directors be approved and published, and copies printed for distribution among the Shareholders.  
For other resolutions vide Report.

#### TOWEDTEAGUE MINING COMPANY.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR,—A friend of mine having drawn my attention to an article in the Public Ledger, of Saturday last, and your Journal of the same day, headed "Towedteague Mining Company," I am consequently induced to trespass upon your valuable time with a few remarks connected with that Company and the meeting of its Shareholders, trusting you will do me the favour to publish the same. With reference to the meeting of the Shareholders at the Queen's Arms Tavern, on the 24th instant, its object is too obvious to require much comment, yet it would be unjust to my brother Directors and myself (with whom I have ever acted in concert) were I not, as the only Director present, to make some reply to this Bravo in words, who has portrayed Mr. Abbott in such glowing colours, at an attempt to stab the reputation and character of the Directors. This Mr. Andrews, I have since heard, has but little knowledge of Mr. Abbott; he may consider the praise bestowed upon his dear friend worthy his hire, but he will fail to remove facts from the minds of the Directors, that he (Mr. Abbott) was compelled by their determination to return to the shareholders the full amount of their first instalment. To this Mr. Abbott would not consent, making claims for salary, and various other charges; upon this Capt. Dickinson and myself objected, as the whole amount subscribed would not have discharged it. We consulted with Mr. Schneider, and a resolution was passed at the board, calling a meeting of the proprietors on the 22d of May last, which meeting was advertised, without a single shareholder attending; a second day of meeting was advertised, when one solitary subscriber attended. In consequence of the non attendance to the meetings of the shareholders, Capt. Dickinson and myself tendered our resignation, and the company's affairs remained in abeyance till the meeting of the 24th inst. where I attended, having heard that it was the intention of Mr. Abbott to act in accordance with the long desired wish of the Directors, and for the purpose of adding my signature to the banker's cheques for the purpose of returning the deposits to the shareholders.

It is not my intention to reply to the Public Ledger—the number of copies of that paper, detailing the meeting, forwarded into the country, and the attendance of its reporter, are both matters of business. I do, however, deem it necessary to make some circumstances known to your Journal, as it is the medium through which the most valuable information is circulated in all the mining counties and districts in the kingdom. That it may appear strange to you, that the directors had not qualified, from the small capital subscribed of £105., and that by 9 subscribers, personal friends of Mr. Abbott, will be understood, by your perusal of the fourth condition of the prospectuses of the company, wherein it is stated, "that the directors were not to take any fees or salary out of the subscribed capital of the company." The substance of the conditions of the prospectus under which the company was brought out, are the same as that under the direction of S. Cater, Esq., J. Lonsdale, Esq., and J. Lutwyche, Esq.; merely an alteration in the directorship. My acquaintance with the project, Mr. Abbott, arose from the recommendation of a friend of mine, who assured me that it was a straightforward thing, that Captain Dickinson, whom I well knew, was to be one of the directors; and that there was every prospect from the report of the mine to be a safe and successful undertaking; with this impression I consented to become a co-director with Captain Dickinson and Mr. Schneider, whom I had met some years ago. On proceeding to business, we found under the original direction 1,700 shares had been applied for; 4,000 names were selected, and appropriated to such persons as Mr. Abbott and the directors thought were most likely to pay up their shares, Mr. Abbott assuring the directors that from 1,200 to 1,500 shares would be paid into the Bankers forthwith. Judge of the astonishment of the directors, when they discovered that only nine shareholders had paid their deposits, amounting to £105. only; that Mr. Abbott, from his knowledge of the mine, might have been over sanguine—that he might have been promised support, I am ready to admit; but what was the duty of the directors, under the astounding facts before them of its total failure. Could they have acted otherwise than as they did? "That the public took but little interest in the concern is quite clear," and the same may be taken in my statement; yet I am desirous of "the saddle being placed on the right horse." In concluding this long epistle, I thank you for the mercy you extend towards my brother directors and myself, during the time you make your enquiries who these worthy directors are, the benefit of that doubt you can have, as far as regards myself, whenever you will do me the honour to put such questions as you conceive will elucidate this mystery, or I will refer you to many of my friends in Cornwall. I sincerely hope for the sake of the directors and shareholders of the many mining speculations which I see are advertised in your Journal, that your fostering protection will be extended towards them with that vigilance which you have manifested towards those of the Towedteague.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
WILLIAM WILDEY.  
2, Baker Street, Portman Square, Dec. 31, 1833.

#### WEST WHEEL BROTHERS.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR,—In reply to the letter of Candidus in your Journal of 19 inst. calling on me to answer some queries propounded, I beg leave to inform him that I never participated in any of the transactions which appear to have given rise to his cross-questioning, and am quite innocent of being a party to any attempt to get possession of West Wheel Brothers. The doubts which Candidus expresses with regard to the purity of my motives in first introducing the subject to public notice, may possibly be removed by this explanation, and I take this opportunity of telling him, that if the constitution of the West Wheel Brothers Mining Company had not been such as to lay it open to public criticism, the subject would never have been broached by me.

Respecting the extent of the set of West Wheel Brothers, it may be well to enquire into the truth of the statement which gives 200 fathoms as its length. I have heard it mentioned confidently, by parties conversant both with the mine and neighbourhood, that it falls short of 150 fathoms; but apart from this, the propriety of forming a public company for working a mine, the limits of which are a subject of doubt and

dispute, may well be questioned. It may not be very material for extensive sets to undergo a reduction of some 50 or 60 fathoms, but it would be of the utmost importance with so contracted a surface as West Wheel Brothers.

As far as regards the statement that the ore said to be from West Wheel Brothers, were actually raised in West Wheel Brothers, I can only repeat that the report is current in the vicinity of the mine, and is generally believed by parties who, I am inclined to think, possess more accurate information on the matter than Candidus himself, who will surely now acquit me of being its first propagator. The replies to my questions, Nos. 3, 4, and 5, I shall pass over, with remarking, that the shares retained by the original proprietors, ought not to be now considered as remaining at a mere nominal value; it must not be forgotten, that they are given to the proprietor in lieu of money, and were no doubt valued in the calculations of purchase, at the amount paid on the other 4,500 shares; viz. at two pounds per share. It is also too much to assert, that West Wheel Brothers, from which no profitable result has been obtained, is equal to half the value of West Wheel Brothers, calculating from the present price of shares in the market.

In my remarks on this subject, I have said nothing more than the circumstances warrant, and the replies of Candidus have done nothing to alter my opinion of the manner in which the undertaking has been taken in hand, which opinion is founded on the statements in the Prospectus, as stated in my last.

What the mine may produce, neither Candidus nor myself can possibly foretell; but whether the operations be crowned with success, or attended with loss, it would add not a little to the satisfaction of the parties interested in the management to know that from their commencement, they were guided by principles of honour and integrity, and to the proprietors to remember, that they were well and fairly treated throughout.

Wishing to Candidus a full share in the enjoyments of this festive season, and a better cause for his advocacy in future.

I remain, Sir, your very obedient Servant,

Dec. 24, 1835.

SCRUTATOR.

#### COAL TRADE.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR,—I have to claim your indulgence in venturing again, to solicit the favour of offering a few further remarks in the columns of your paper, with reference to the formation of a public Company for working the coal in the counties of Durham and Northumberland: and I do so the more, as it appears the few hasty remarks in my two former letters on this subject have particularly attracted the attention of an individual "connected with the trade," who, writing under the signature of "C. C.," seems to entertain some difference of opinion with me as to the policy of the scheme. In offering the few hints in these letters, as to the practicability of commencing a public Company for the above object, allow me to say, that far from attempting to write any "flattering prospectus," or proposing any "visionary project," it was simply my object to direct your attention, Mr. Editor, and that of your numerous readers, to the improving condition of the northern coal districts; and, at the same time, humbly to offer a few suggestions for making the mineral riches of this part of the country more extensively available (by the formation of a public Company) to the interest and advantage of a more numerous body of proprietors; and by openly, and in a fair manner, allowing a new class of capitalists, desirous of embarking their money in this trade, to avail themselves of the advantages of the new lines of Railroads, to open out new fields of coal in the best and most profitable situations, and working them under the present or any other future regulations that may be generally adopted, and thought most advantageous to the general interests of the trade. On noticing the many public Railroads in course of formation through the coal districts, and the improved condition of the different towns on the coast by the formation of this description of communication, with the facilities and advantages they have afforded in the production of coal, particularly in the county of Durham, it will readily be observed that new and extensive fields of coal will be opened out which before lay unproductive, and from the greater facilities that will be afforded in working them, must in time be opened out by new interests, and worked either by private individuals or public companies. It may, therefore, be natural to expect then, that old interests will be more or less affected, from peculiar situations, by new changes that may be made in the trade; but I think there cannot be any serious ground for supposing that any extensive changes will so suddenly take place, as to materially affect those at present embarked in this business, by the formation of any public Company. It appears to me to be quite unnecessary to reply in detail to all the arguments of your correspondent, who certainly appears to be writing more against his own business, than against the formation of a public Company. According to C. C.'s notion, the trade is good for nothing, and not worth entering into, and those already in it would be glad to get out of it. But this is by no means the case. The trade, no doubt, at particular times, has been severely depressed; but, taking it all in all, it has been, and still continues, a good, profitable, and remunerating business. And I have little doubt, by judicious management and proper regulations, we need never see again any of those ruinous effects so vividly remembered by every one connected with this extensive interest. As to the formation of a public Company, the whole argument of C. C. is to the extent of its operations; and to use his own words, it is for "doing" something more than ever had been done before; and, in point of fact, he is afraid it might have the effect of glutting the market, and break in upon the private and general regulations of the trade. In reply to this, I have merely to say, I am no advocate for doubtful speculations; and before embarking in any new business, I always like to see my way clear, and have my eyes open. I have considered the advantages of forming a public Company for the above object, simply as a means of embarking capital to pay a fair business profit; and I have come to the conclusion, that I may safely enter into the coal trade, and command a good and safe investment for capital. And I may also say, for the satisfaction of C. C., that any public Company that I may have to do with must be managed, and shaped its speculations, with reference to the general regulations of the trade. Consequently, such a Company has as good, if not a greater, chance of working collieries, with profit and success, as any body of private individuals whatever.

It is admitted by C. C., in his last letter, that a "valuable portion of coal remains unworked," and that it is perfectly feasible to sink shafts, and in the extensive districts of the north, with the present advanced state of mining knowledge, finding coal at moderate depths in particular situations "is reduced to a certainty." Now this is exactly my own opinion about the matter, and as we know the old collieries are gradually being worked out, and new ones must and will be opened to supply their place, all I propose a company to do, is to get hold of the most valuable portions of this unworked coal, and work it according to the demand for the article. I do not wish that a company should have any doubtful speculations, but that they should carefully choose their ground, commence operations, and I think there can be but little fear of their success, and that the results would certainly be otherwise than anticipated by your correspondent, or else the coal trade, up to the present time, has been a most miserable concern. Towards the conclusion C. C. states that he "wishes it to be distinctly understood not to convey in the preceding observations any direct hostility to any practical scheme that may be brought before the public for the purpose of working collieries to a limited extent." Now I will tell C. C. at his word, and will propose no more than working collieries to a limited extent by a public company, but I will leave the shareholders of that company to be the judges of how far it would be prudent, safe, and profitable, to work collieries, according to the present and future state of the trade, and allow them to extend their operations according to their demands, and the state of the markets.

C. C. is quite mistaken if he supposes me foolish enough to suppose that I am able to carry the world before me; all I wish is simple inquiry; I am open to conviction; but it will be by other arguments than C. C.'s that I must give up my suggestions as not practicable, and a company useless. The main points to be considered in the formation of a company, are the present state of the trade, and the existing regulations. The quality and quantity of the coal produced, and the profit and loss attending the carrying on this description of trade. The collieries are all managed by agency; consequently no more expense need be incurred in this respect by a company more than private individuals. Good coal will always keep its price in the market, and I propose to work nothing but the most valuable portions of coal in the mineral fields. And as to the quantity, you may either deluge the market, or adjust it, which latter must be done by a judicious regulation, to steady the price; and with respect to the profit and



C. C. knows full well, that by the sale of the best coal there will be a very considerable more profit than loss to amply and handsomely make a dividend sufficient to satisfy and induce every one to keep his capital embarked in the business. In conclusion, Sir, allow me to observe that I never expected but that some difference of opinion might arise respecting my suggestions, and particularly so when new interests come into collision with old ones, from the narrow-minded jealousy of those wedded to old prejudices and feelings. And I dare say by those my suggestions will be thought stale and unprofitable, and no doubt useless; but there are others again, who never lose sight of any thing, however trivial, who will take the hint, and keep a steady eye upon all the improvements going on in the north—will look well to the progress of the railways through the fields, and avail themselves of the advantage that may be derived from them, in getting hold of a few good current going collieries in the best situations; and perhaps the whole of Newcastle, as well as the other towns in the district, will be wholly supplied by the coals of public companies, which will also not be without its influence in the London as well as the foreign markets.

Newcastle, Dec. 23, 1835.

I remain, &amp;c.

A. B.

## SIR H. DAVY'S SAFETY LAMP.

To the Editor of the Mining Journal.

SIR,—Having been induced by the publication in your valuable Journal, of the report of the late Select Committee of the House of Commons, "On Accidents in Mines," to examine with care the evidence on which it is presumed to be founded; I cannot discover any part of it, which, in my opinion, sufficiently warrants the unqualified assertion that, Sir H. Davy was not the first discoverer of the principle of the Safety Lamp; or that he was at any time acquainted with its alleged insecurity. The Report states on the first point, "that the principles of it's (the Safety Lamp's) construction, appear to have been practically known to the witnesses Clanny and Stephenson, previously to the period when Sir H. Davy brought his powerful mind to bear on the subject." And on the second, that "the attention of the Committee has been drawn by different witnesses to contingencies in mining, under which the lamp of Sir H. Davy ceases to afford adequate protection. Of the possible existence and nature of these contingencies, they have ascertained that the inventor was well aware, and they regret that the cautions he gave to some of his immediate friends, were not made more public." The merit of the discovery of the principle of the present Safety Lamp, it is known was awarded to Sir H. Davy, nearly 20 years ago, and, no doubt, justly. A strict investigation of his and Mr. Stephenson's claims, was at that time made by a committee of scientific persons, two of whom, Mr. Professor Brande and Dr. Ure, are now living, and can therefore speak to this fact. Dr. Clanny never had, and to his credit, never claimed a shadow of pretension to it. Mr. Stephenson was the only competitor.

Again: That Sir H. Davy was well, or the least aware, that his lamp was not secure in all its known uses, if ascertained by the Committee, must have been ascertained from some other source than the published evidence. For, with the exception of Mr. Buddle's evidence, and his alone, on this point, which, to say the least of it, appears to be vague and unsatisfactory, the very opposite conclusion ought to be drawn. This, I trust, I shall be able to show, if Sir H. Davy's own published opinions on this subject are considered to have any weight. I shall, therefore, take from his pamphlet on "Flame and the Safety Lamp," the following extracts. It contains many paragraphs to the same purport, but these I think will suffice. Sir H. Davy states, p. 43, "All he (the miner) requires to insure security, are small wire cages to surround his candle or lamp, of which various modifications may be adopted; and the application of this discovery will not only preserve him from fire damp, but enable him to apply it to use, and to destroy it, at the same time that it gives him a useful light." And what is more in support of this conclusion, and not a little remarkable, as compared with the individual evidence referred to; in the appendix to the same work, p. 125, he says—"I have had some correspondence with Mr. Buddle, respecting the accidents which have happened in coal mines since the discovery of the safety lamp. He (Buddle) refers them, in all cases, to the carelessness of the workmen." It must be observed that the pamphlet, from which these extracts have been taken, was re-published by Sir H. Davy in 1825, nine years after the introduction of his lamp, while it was in general use; and, but a short, very short time, prior to his leaving England, never to return. In noticing this subject, though engaged extensively in mining pursuits, I beg to state that I have no desire at present to enter into the question of the security, or insecurity, of Sir H. Davy's lamp. My object is, that injustice should not even unintentionally be done to the character and merits of this truly eminent man. I trust, in conclusion, I may be permitted to make one further observation: that it would have been more satisfactory to me, and I believe to others, had the names of Faraday, Brande, and Ure, appeared amongst the witnesses.

Your constant reader, and obedient servant,

Dudley, Dec. 26, 1835.

FAIRPLAY.

## ACCIDENTS IN MINES.—THE DAVY LAMP.

We are happy to see that this subject is becoming of general interest, and such as to attract the attention of our contemporaries. We have already adverted to the subject of the safety lamp invented by Sir H. Davy, and have given the evidence of gentlemen acquainted with the origin of that invention, and well experienced in the operation and advantages attendant on its use. The evidence of Mr. Buddle was, in the most unequivocal terms, expressive of his opinion of the fullest confidence in the security of the Davy lamp, and that he had not in an experience of nearly twenty years (having during that period from 1,200 to 1,500 lamps daily under his superintendence) known of any accidents to arise from the instrument where care was observed. We now extract from the evidence before the Parliamentary Commissioners, that portion of the testimony of Dr. Birkbeck which relates to this subject. We admit that the opinions are the result of experiments made in the laboratory, and that there may be some difference in the factious gases employed, with those generally met with in mining operations; yet we think that the conclusions arrived at by a gentleman of such well-known scientific attainments, and celebrated as he is for his skill in conducting chemical experiments, and caution in deducing inferences, are well deserving our most serious attention and respect, and at the same time we must confess that the assertion of Mr. Buddle, made in a report presented by him about 20 years since, to a Society for the prevention of Accidents in Mines: that no improvements could be made on the plans then generally adopted, are calculated to lead us to apprehend that from preconceived opinions, or from habit, he may occasionally be hasty in his reasonings or inferences. Before adducing that portion of the evidence which relates to ventilation, or other important operations in mines, we intend to continue the subject of the Davy Lamp until we have placed before our readers the various experiments and arguments for or against the further employment of it in the business of mining.

Dr. George Birkbeck, examined.

As a chemist, what is your opinion of the merit of Sir Humphry Davy's Lamp as an entire preventive of explosions from mixture of gases?—Sir Humphry Davy's Lamp has unquestionably great merit, inasmuch as it protects against ignition when the explosive gas is quiescent, but it is totally defective when that gas is in motion, and can reach the wire gauze (the protecting substance) in that state of condensation which a moving column of gas always requires; it then becomes no longer a safety lamp; the flame within then passes through the meshes, and ignites the explosive compound which is without.

Have you ever ascertained by experiment at what rate a column of inflammable gas must act upon the gauze cylinder to produce explosion after mixture?—I have not; the ordinary rate, however, at which it flows from the orifice of gas lamps used in lighting houses and shops, is quite sufficient for that purpose. For long before I was aware of the fact more decisively, I saw experiments which were made with the wire gauze on gas issuing from such orifices, under the common pressure of the public gasometers, in which, long before the wire gauze had acquired that temperature at which Sir Humphry says it is no longer safe, ignition took place through the wire gauze. I was not then aware that it was owing to the motion of the gas, but I now know it is from that circumstance. At the ordinary rate therefore at which it flows through the pipes of this metropolis, the velocity is sufficient to produce ignition, and consequently with the greater velocity of a blower in a mine, ignition must be quite unavoidable.

What is your private rationale of the principle on which Sir Humphry Davy's lamp acts as a protection?—I have always been satisfied that it was by the metallic tissue reducing the temperature of the flame so much, that it was incapable of occasioning ignition in contiguous portions of explosive gas. I have seen no reason to doubt that it is the cooling process by conduction and radiations of the wire gauze, that the temperature is rendered inoffensive in respect of the ignition of the adjacent portions of gas; it is therefore by a cooling process.

Would that opinion be confirmed by an experiment showing, the perfectly cold gauze being used, a jet of gas would explode immediately on the lamp being exposed to it?—Yes; because the heat of that jet, or current of gas becomes so great, that notwithstanding the cooling effect of the gauze, it keeps up an igniting power equal to that required for inflaming the gas on the other side.

Then standing on the opposite side of the gauze, would you expect to see a change towards red heat in the gauze previously to explosion?—If the gas were quiescent, but not if it were in motion, for in the experiments to which I have alluded, the wire gauze did not become red hot, and I was in the act of stating that the flame would not pass until the wire gauze did become red hot, when the flame actually passed, the gauze not being red hot, to my very great surprise.

Do not you consider it a point of practical importance to ascertain what the velocity of a current of gas must be, previously to its exploding beyond the lamp, inasmuch as a miner taking alarm, as he ordinarily does at the gauze being red hot, might have delayed the removal of his lamp, under the impression that he was still in safety?—Certainly; but I conceive it the less necessary, because the same safety may be obtained without any risk, even from air in motion. If we were reduced to the necessity of continuing the Davy Lamp, then I think, that ought at once to be ascertained; but if we can manage to form a lamp which will bear the currents, as well as the stationary condition of the explosive compound, that necessity is at an end.

It is usual in mining, to bring down two or more cubic yards of coal at one fall; can you conceive the falling of such a body would cause a concussion sufficient to ignite a very explosive atmosphere at the lamp?—I can; for the weight of such a mass of coal will produce great compression, and that compression produces the same condition as to superior facility of ignition, that the motion of air in a current produces. I conceive the current produces its effect by the gas being compressed, and therefore becoming more combustible; it is gaseous matter, containing within the same space a greater quantity of the combustible, and it may, therefore, be said to be of a higher combustible quality; so if it is compressed by weight from the gasometer supplying a burner, that same condition of the gas, the higher degree of combustibility, and the consequent greater degree of heat would arise from that simple and more slow compression, as by the falling of a heavy body on the mass of the air.

Then you could suppose a case in which the atmosphere of the mine was not so inflammable the moment the coal was thrown down, as to show any explosive effect in the gas, and the atmosphere being rendered more explosive by the gas being discharged from the coal, the gas might explode without giving warning to the men?—Certainly; there would be no warning unless the miner had been instructed what would occur to the gas; it must be a warning of intelligent inference if it existed at all.

You are aware that many of the accidents that have occurred in mines where the safety-lamp has been in universal, or all but universal use, remain entirely unaccounted for?—Yes, they never have appeared to me to be satisfactorily explained, for in general, those who suffer, and must have known all the circumstances, were rendered incapable of communicating what they knew.

Have you ever had the curiosity to enter into a consideration which would afford rational conjectures as to the manner in which such accidents may have occurred?—No, I have not; I have not had an opportunity of seeing in detail any account of those accidents, but I have always observed it stated, that nobody could tell how they happened. They assumed that the Davy Lamp was a perfect safeguard, and therefore they were totally at a loss to explain the occurrence which had taken place; and I have never yet been enough acquainted with the minutiae of those events to understand their causes.

Have you had an opportunity of comparing Sir Humphry Davy's Lamp with others recently suggested, so as to form an idea whether any improvement—practical improvement—may be made in Sir Humphry Davy's Lamp?—I have; and I have found that a very great practical improvement may be made, and has been made.

Would you define the nature of the alteration which you would be inclined to suggest as to such improvement? I should certainly suggest as an important alteration, the non-admission of air through the surrounding cylinder of the wire gauze; that appears to me to be a primary point; then I should certainly suggest that the quantity of air by which the burning body producing the light is supplied should be limited, and should be so directed, that it can be employed only in igniting and continuing to ignite the burning body from which the light is to be obtained.

Have you ever seen an improvement in the Davy Lamp proposed by Messrs. Upton and Roberts?—I have.

What is your opinion of the merits of it?—It appears to me to comprehend all the points that are essential to safety, viewing it theoretically, and having exposed it to every requisite trial, and indeed to some trials of great severity, and always without the slightest appearance of the passage of flame from the interior of the lamp externally, I consider it to be perfectly safe.

Do you intend to state, that no explosion was produced in the course of these experiments, under contingencies in which the Davy Lamp would inevitably have exploded?—Certainly I do; for when the same experiments in which the flame passed through the cylindrical wire gauze of Davy's Lamp, and ignited the gas exterior to it, were repeated with the lamp of Messrs. Upton and Roberts, the gas which was exterior was not ignited. The gas externally was not ignited in any of the often repeated trials.

As Messrs. Upton and Roberts have had an opportunity of explaining their invention to this committee, will you give us your opinion whether the flame from their lamp, naturally elongated on coming into the presence of carburetted hydrogen, would not act with great force on the principle of a blowpipe against the upper stratum of the gauze?—It would not, for there is neither a sufficient quantity of inflammable matter nor of the supporter of combustion to make it a very great or long flame. It never has been, in any of the instances I have seen, a flame reaching nearly to the upper stratum of the gauze; but there is another circumstance which prevents its producing much effect on the gauze,—that there is no gaseous matter, in the actual ignition, in contact with that gauze, as in the case with Davy's lamp. At the upper part, above the flame, that is at the upper part of the cylinder, there is nothing but acetic gas and carbonic acid gas, and there it is impossible that any flame could exist, and consequently, no extraordinary heat can arise.

In the experiments you have made, or witnessed, what in point of fact was the appearance and position of the flame in Messrs. Upton and Roberts' lamp while immersed in the inflammable atmosphere?—It always gently, slightly elongated, but it was so little, that if it had been a question whether any carburetted hydrogen had been supplied to it or not, it would reasonably have been matter of doubt if one had not seen it actually administered, because the quantity of oxygen supplied, is very little beyond what is necessary for combustion of the wick of the lamp, there could be very little additional combustion going on.

## CARN BREA.

(Continued.)

Dire was the conflict, and for a long while victory appeared undecided where to throw her bay; but at last Roman numbers and discipline prevailed; the Britons were routed with terrible slaughter; many of the Druids fell into the hands of the Romans, and were thrown by the relentless victors into the very fires which they had kindled for their invading enemies. The broken fragments of the British army were driven into the wilds and fastnesses of the country, where they were again organised by the Druids, and taught by desperate resolution to defend the consecrated groves, and Druidical temples and altars, such as we have already seen on Carn Brea.

Of the manner in which the remains of Druidism was defended by the "old Cornish" at Carn Brea, we have no particular history; but we gather enough from general history to warrant the conclusion that they were among the last to surrender to the Roman arms. Of their stubborn valour, of the heroism displayed by them in defence of their position, of the importance which the Romans attached to the possession of Carn Brea, and of the dread which they entertained lest the Cornish should rise and

retaliate their cruelties, we have ample proof in the ancient Roman castle which still crowns its summit. It was to the consecrated grove which stood at the foot of Carn Brea, that the inhabitants carried their old, and sick, and children, as to a place of safety; there, too, their scanty stock of valuables were deposited. These were not to be obtained by the Romans but by a desperate struggle. Bitter experience had heretofore taught that the skin-clad Britons were not proof to the Roman spears; that a few hunters, with such weapons only as they were accustomed to use in the chase, must wage unequal contest with long disciplined legions armed to the teeth in bristling steel; but the unequal contest was long supported with undaunted resolution, every inch of the sacred grove was disputed with a heroism which none but Romans could withstand; and bitterly did they rue their temerity in advancing into the Druidical retreat; and when at length the wood was carried, the bloody work was but just begun. The gallant Britons retreated on Carn Brea, whose rugged surface might be truly denominated a "munition of rocks." Here every path was continually swept by incessant showers of British arrows, hurled with cool and determined precision at the advancing foe; every rock was indeed a fortress behind, and in front of which prodigies of valour were performed, and which cost torrents of Cornish blood to defend, and of Roman blood to carry; and when at last the unequal strife ceased, who could count the unnumbered heroic combatants which lay even in death's arms, frowning horribly, about the base, along the sides, and on the summit of Carn Brea?

A little while, and the Druidical temple was razed to its foundation, the Druids were sacrificed on their own altars, their deified Logan Rock was exposed to Roman insult, and their sacred grove consumed in livid flame. The work of destruction was complete; and Carn Brea castle was erected by Roman hands as a monument of Roman glory; it remains to this day no less a testimonial of British valour, than of Roman prowess; and long may it remain to tell the tale of bloody deeds to generations yet unborn. The remaining flower of British valour was carried captive to Rome, where the fame of their heroism, and their noble bearing excited the unanimous applause, and won the universal admiration of their heroic and generous conquerors. "How," exclaimed the heroic British leader, "how could a people possessed of so much magnificence at home envy me a humble cottage in Britain?" The sentiment was applauded to the very echo, and the noble Briton, instead of being detained a captive, was taken to the arms of the Roman emperor as a friend and a brother! We pause again, and take a retrospective view from Carn Brea. We behold the numerous Druidical stations deserted, and Roman castles frowning over the smouldering ruins. We look for *Dre Druidid*, and the hamlets before noticed, and behold more numerous, and more comfortable habitations rising out of their ashes. We behold Animosity being driven by Attachment into the distant and dreary regions of Oblivion; and Reciprocal Affection, blessed messenger of peace! "her feet wet with dew, and her locks with the drops of the night," her beauteous countenance, radiant with her divine mission, inspiring the once inveterate enemies with mutual confidence, peace, and goodwill, until the Britons generously acknowledge the Romans their benefactors; and the Romans, no mean judges of character, as candidly confess the Britons to be the most generous, the most faithful, the most heroic, and the most noble of all people. We behold the Romans introducing civil polity among the Britons, teaching them to desire and raise the necessaries of life, and instructing them in the arts and sciences. We behold the elite of the British youth entering the Roman ranks, assaying the Roman panoply, and becoming the invincibles of the Roman army. In a word, our ancestors and their conquerors became as one people; the heroic blood of both commingled, and the bravest of earth's sons are destined to rise yet higher in the scale of renown.

(To be continued.)

## ON THE VENTILATION OF MINES.

(The following letter appeared in the Courier, addressed to the Editor, on the subject of accidents in mines arising from imperfect ventilation.)

SIR,—I have just seen in your paper of the 10th inst., a letter from Mr. Salmon, dated Ulverston, Dec. 4, recommending fanners for the ventilation of mines. He recommends forcing fresh air into the mines.

I speak from experience when I say that this will be found ineffectual; but, if the action of the fanners be reversed, and the foul air be pumped out of the mines, I can say, from the experience of upwards of eight years, that it will most effectually answer the purpose. My attention was first called to this subject in 1827, at which time the working of my brother's coalfield, in the neighbourhood of Johnstone, was completely stopped, from the foul air generated in a part of the field which was on fire, pressing down upon the workings to the dip. By means of fanners the whole workings, which are very extensive, and which had been inaccessible for a fortnight, were, in a few days, completely cleared of foul air. It is not now in daily use, but it would be impossible to carry on the work without it. The coal field is very irregular, and fanners, in different situations in the mines, have been necessary, to pump the foul air into the main air course. The action of the fanners, when set in motion, is felt in a few minutes, at the distance of nearly a mile on the main air course.

If you think this communication worth publishing you are, of course, at full liberty to do so. So far as I am acquainted with mining operations, I do not see any circumstances under which ventilation might not be effected by means of fanners, used in the manner I have described.

Johnstone Castle, Dec. 13.

WILLIAM HOUTFORD.

## STONEHENGE.

At a late meeting of the architectural society, the President stated, that on the recent inspection of the stones on Salisbury Plain, he discovered that the larger ones were of pure white foreign marble, regularly wrought in prismatic blocks; the discolouration was only superficial, produced, like the irregularities of shape, by the weather, and the granular character which was closely analogous to that of Carrara, obviously not Pentelic. This opens a wide field of conjecture respecting the means by which they arrived at their destination. Mr. Clarke is of opinion that they might have been brought by the Phœnicians from the shores of Greece, and introduced into this country by Southampton water, from the upper navigable point of which there only remained a distance of 23 or 24 miles of land carriage to be overcome in conveying them to their present position. The expense and labour undergone to obtain stones of a white aspect for the great Druidical circle, tends greatly to strengthen the hypothesis that the arrangement was connected with the worship of the moon, in which such a resplendent combination of altars might be conceived to be peculiarly appropriate. The small stones, Mr. Clarke believes, to be green basalt.

(The following remarks on the subject of this singular remain of Druidical worship appear in the last Number of the Newcastle Courier, from a correspondent.)

A gentleman who had visited these remarkable relics of antiquity, and who had inspected them carefully, told me he was decidedly of opinion that the large stones were artificial—in short, made of sea sand. He supposed that the sand was passed through a fine sieve, so as to allow of only the finer particles to run through, and to remove any extraneous substances, as a piece of sea shell would have unfolded the deposit. The sand, upon being moistened with a liquid cement, was then put into moulds of wood, built up to the required height, and when the sand was consolidated, the wooden boxes removed, and the artificial stones thus made acquired durability to resist the action of the air for ages. In favour of this theory, it is to be observed, that although the outer coat of the stone is remarkably hard, and difficult to make an impression upon, even with a hammer and chisel, yet when once broken into, and a piece of the interior stone obtained, it is found to be of a white colour, of a soft granular texture, and apt to fall to pieces in the hand; the grains having quite the appearance of fine sand when closely examined. On the top of the large stones there is found to be a prominent circular piece, and in the listel, or horizontal stone, there is found a corresponding cavity, so that the pieces are jointed or articulated into each other. This could be readily done, if formed of sand, by a liquid cement, and the stones themselves could easily be made upon the spot, without the Herculean labour which it is generally supposed they would require to convey and erect them. It is also to be remarked, that the Druids were said not to have used any stones in their temples that were wrought from a quarry. Upon taking the specific gravity of the specimen in my possession, it proved to be 2545, which is confirmatory of this opinion, as the finer particles of sea sand, when consolidated with a liquid cement, would very much resemble common stone, of which this is near the specific gravity. The Italian and Grecian marbles are considerably heavier."



TRADITIONARY FRAGMENTS OF MINING HISTORY,  
BY A CORNISHMAN.

The Pair, or Sober John and Capt. Joe.

## CHAP. VIII.

A knowledge of the Hog merchants being at the Bull and Mouth was sufficient to introduce a much more than ordinary influx of customers; and the proprietor of the establishment had no reason to regret having entertained the pair, notwithstanding his having received them so reluctantly. Not a few of these visitors were attracted by the fame of Captain Joe, who contributed not a little to their amusement by his blunt drolleries; in return for which he got plenty of toddy, and that principally on what he called "honour's account," which was by no means unsuitable to the state of his exchequer. As it regarded matters of business, however, he was no longer the heart and soul of the Bull and Mouth; but was heaved by his comrade from the object of their visit to the metropolis, just as a cross-course would have heaved a lode out of a sett; or, to use another, and perhaps a more appropriate mining expression, he was for a while put to stull, like a pile of deads. So far as business was concerned, Sober John was now the man. His "gift of the gab" was not slow in arresting the attention of the evening visitors at the Bull and Mouth, and he was so eloquent on most topics, that he was soon and unanimously declared to be a clever—a very clever fellow. But it was on matters relative to mining that he was chiefly wont to dwell, and on the subject of the Cornish mines he was particularly eloquent; but although he shone here with unrivalled splendour, he would embrace the whole subject with almost equal elicit; in short, turn him to any point of intricate mining policy,

"The Gordian knot of it he would untie,  
Familiar as his garter."

Finding that he had made an impression, he took care to follow it up. He traced the history of metals from the brass and iron forged and hammered by old Tubal Cain, to the gold of Ophir, and the silver of Peru and Mexico, home to the tin and copper of Cornwall. He talked of precious stones, from the bdelium and onyx, the jasper and sardine, the topaz and emerald, to the far-famed Cornish diamond. He was eloquent on the geological structure of the globe, and traced the different strata of the different countries, and more particularly of his own, from that of the sand-stone and grit of the different northern coal fields and lead mines, to the elvan, the killas, and the granite of his native hills; showing wherein the different strata were considered by the philosophical geologists and mineralogists to be favourable or unfavourable for the production of the different metals. He traced the mining history of his native county from the remote era when the Greeks and Phœnicians, without the aid of chart or compass, by dint of coasting along the different shores in their fragile barks, found their way to "British Barbary," and traded with our savage progenitors, exchanging the productions of their own country for Cornish tin, home to modern days, when these very Greeks and Phœnicians are themselves sunk into a state of barbarism little better than that in which their polished forefathers found the savage sons of Britain; and when the posterity of these very savages are raised to a state of civilization and refinement, superior perhaps to any other nation, or people, or kindred or tongue.

From generalities he descended to particulars, and from theory to practice. He detailed the different mining operations from the discovery of a lode by a dowsing rod, and its being laid open on the back by cross tin pits, to the deepest point to which from the nature of the country, and the size, inclination, and composition of the lode, it might rationally be considered to be productive. In short, the cockneys were astonished; perfectly astonished! at the general and local knowledge displayed on the subject of mining by Sober John. Captain Joe was almost as much astounded as the cockneys, and protested "that his comrade would make a capital Bryanite preacher." Having held forth in this strain for an evening or two, Sober John considered that it was time to proceed to business. So he began politely to question the different parties as to their inclination towards mining adventures. Had Sober John been alone, of even in less questionable company, he might have had almost unsolicited adventurers for half the mines of Cornwall. But now the parties, although so captivated by his eloquence, so justly admiring the beautifully executed setts, and the elegant language and beautiful penmanship of his descriptions, as to be almost induced to take up shares, they could not help hesitating, while ever and anon, they cast the most suspicious glances at Captain Joe. These glances were perfectly intelligible to Sober John, and he took up the question in his usual masterly manner. He went on to describe this system of mismanagement, as not being peculiar to Captain Joe only, but to several others of the fraternity in Cornwall; and as a system into which the London adventurers themselves, in opposition to the opinion of their more prudent Cornish agents, were too apt to fall. He pointed out the folly of forming an establishment, consisting of numerous directors, managers, agents, clerks, and storekeepers, at enormous salaries, when the whole of the concern might be superintended by a single captain; of erecting and furnishing large count-houses and other buildings on a mine in a state of infancy, and of providing the necessary apparatus for returning tin, and dressing copper ore, before it had been ascertained that the lode contained either the one or the other, and sometimes when there have been reason to doubt even if there was a lode in the sett; of commencing operations heedlessly and without due consideration, and not unfrequently in opposition to the best advice, at wrong points; and, above all, of employing a person as a manager who was scarcely fit for an underground Captain. This was a smart slap for Captain Joe. He felt it, and swore that "he could manage a bal as well as any Captain in Cornwall; and a great deal better than his old prating comrade, who was fit for nothing but to be a fringe hole imp," (that is the person who wheels away the ashes and cinders from the engine). The matters above noticed were expatiated on by Sober John with so much honesty, sincerity, and ability, that his hearers were fully satisfied as to the cause of the failure of their late adventures, under the management or rather mismanagement of Captain Joe. And they were, moreover, so confident of the integrity and abilities of Sober John, that he found little difficulty in forming a pair of adventurers for the working of his setts.

(To be continued.)

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

**Redruth United Mining Company.**—Having omitted to attend the meeting of this Company, held on Monday last, we were desirous of furnishing our readers with a copy of the report, but on application were informed that it would not be supplied us. At this present time our Exchequer is too low to allow us to expend 10s. or 15s. in the purchase of a share to qualify as a Proprietor, but we shall endeavour, antecedent to the next meeting, to place ourselves in a position to be able to furnish a report of their proceedings. While writing this, it has occurred to us, that the Directors of this Company are the same, or nearly so, as those of the Allion Mining Company, (110s. each per annum), and the North Consolidated Mines, from the meeting of which we were requested to withdraw.

**EXTRA SHEET.**—Our arrangement did not admit of giving the Supplement this week, which, however, will be presented with our next, with Title Page and Index of the past Numbers.

**Railways.**—Deferred until our next, when we hope to render our article one of interest and usefulness.

**Map of Cornwall.**—We are obliged to E. for the offer, and shall gladly avail ourselves of his assistance. We hope to have the Map ready within a month.

**West Treowen and Amlwch.**—We have received a communication with the motto "Veritas" on the seal. If the statements of our correspondent be in accordance with the motto, we have certainly done these concerns some injustice, but "impartial" and "honest," we shall not be ashamed to retract our steps, and if such be the case, acknowledge the error of our ways.

The letter of Mr. Malachy on the subject of West Wheal Brothers, in reply to Mr. Carpenter, we have not inserted, feeling that a discussion of this nature has been carried sufficiently far, and we recommend the gentlemen concerned to meet and fight it out over a jug of Count-house punch.

THE MINING JOURNAL  
AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

LONDON, January 2, 1855.

The observations which we have been called upon occasionally to make on the subject of the prices of materials supplied to mines, has in some instances, we have every reason to believe, had the effect intended, as exciting the attention of those parties in London to whom it confided the management of mining operations, but whose imperfect knowledge of the system adopted in Cornwall rendered them too confident in the integrity which they supposed to influence the merchants supplying materials to the mines with which they were connected. We have ever avoided bringing before the public any adventure which might be considered as of a private nature, therefore we withhold information of which we are in possession as re-

lates to a particular mine in the county of Cornwall, and which is the cause of our again directing attention to this important subject.

There is a strong distinction to be drawn between the in and the out adventurer well understood by those connected with the county, and the purser too frequently supplies the mines, or is at least an interested party. When it is considered the heavy amount of merchants' bills—the large consumption of timber, powder, candles, rope, iron, steel, and other necessities, we feel assured that our observations will have due weight with those to whom may be confided the direction of mining operations in Cornwall, while we hope it may teach parties whom we must not name, but who are well known to us, a little honesty. The excessive charges to which our attention has been directed in mines where merchants are interested, and who pass their own accounts, contrasted with those where there is not county influence, would astound our readers were they to make the comparison. It will, however, suffice for the object we have in view—if that the capitalist will exercise caution, if that he will compare prices—examine the items of the several bills for materials, and judge for himself.

We cannot leave this subject without observing on some one or two prospectuses which have lately been placed in our hands, whereby we find that parties in Cornwall, undoubtedly of the first respectability as bankers, merchants, &c., are nominated, or rather we should say have nominated themselves, as Directors of Mines which have been already partially, if not wholly, tried by them as private adventurers, but who now, with all the milk of human kindness towards the London capitalist, offer him a share in all the advantages to be reaped from working the mines more extensively; whereby, not to advert to the banking account, the supplies of materials will not be inconsiderable: and who so competent, so disinterested, so likely to promote the interests of his co-adventurers as the merchant-director!

Too many instances have occurred of late for these observations to be considered as applying to any one concern while we shall stand acquitted of any intention to prejudice particular parties, our object being alone, by reforming abuses, to uphold the mining interest.

## THE FUNDS.

CITY.—FRIDAY EVENING.

The past week has been chiefly taken up by persons in business with the usual festivities of the season, consequently the transactions have been very limited. Nevertheless, the arrival of the American President's speech, followed the day after by the speech of the King of the French, have given rather an impetus to commercial affairs. The intervention of Great Britain, which has been accepted by France, will most likely be also accepted by the United States of America, and this affair, which a month ago looked rather serious, be adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties.

The commerce of our country, and, indeed, the world generally, has been universally healthy during the past year; and the accounts from all the manufacturing districts at home promise a constant activity during the present. Spanish affairs continue to attract much attention. If France acts with good faith in conjunction with Great Britain, we may soon hope to see one of the finest countries in the world tranquillized, and her internal resources again attract the attention of enterprising people of other countries her agricultural and mineral wealth offering fair objects for enterprise. The market for railway shares shows signs of improvement as the meeting of Parliament approaches, and, although we do not anticipate such rapid progress will be made in forwarding the Bills through Parliament, as is expected by some very sanguine individuals, yet there are lines of road which hold out a very justifiable prospect of being extremely useful to the public, and remunerating to the shareholders. Much mischief has been done by extravagant calculations of profits on lines already commenced, and we caution the public, both now and for the future, to look well into these matters for themselves.

The quotations of the leading Railway Shares close this evening as follows, viz:—

London and Birmingham	£46	48 premium.
Brighton (Goldsmith's)	2	3 premium.
Greenwich	7½	8½ premium.
Grand Western	7½	8½ premium.
Blackwall	½	1½ premium.
North Midland	2½	2½ premium.
Southampton	4	3 dia.

And the prices of British and Foreign Securities close as follows, viz:—

BRITISH FUNDS.		Dutch 2½ per Ct. 54½ ex div.
Consols, Jan. Account, 92½	4	Dutch 5 do. 101½ 2½
Consols for Feb. 92½	4	Portuguese 5 pr. Ct. 84½
3 per Cent. Red. 90½	4	Do 5 do. 54½
Exch. Bills, 13s. 15s.		Spanish, active, 5 do. 50½
East India Bonds, 1s. 3s.		Do. passive, 16½
FOREIGN BONDS.		Do. deferred 25½
Belgian 5 pr. Ct. 100½		Chili, 6 pr. Ct. 44 45
Brazil 5 do. 83½ 4½		Colombia, 6 pr. Ct. 32½
Danish 5 do. 76½		Mexico, 6 pr. Ct. 38½
Russian 5 do. 108½ 9		Peru, 6 pr. Ct. 24½ 5½

## LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

**Redruth, Dec. 24, 1855.**—The standard of this day is £114 13s. 0d.—Average produce 8—average price £6 8s. 0d. Quantity of ore sold 3333 21 cwt. Quantity of fine copper 266 tons 12 cwt. Amount of sale £21,398 19s. 6d.

**CITY, 12 o'CLOCK.**—Consols for account, 92½; Feb. Account 92½; 3 per Cent. Red. 90½; Omnium, 4½; Exchequer Bills, 13s. 15s. pm.; East India Bonds 1, 3 pm.; Belgian 5 per Cents, 100½; Portuguese 5 per Cents, 84½; Spanish 5 per Cents, 50½; Deferred, 25½; Passive, 16½; Mexican, 38½; London and Birmingham Railway, 46 48 pm.; Greenwich, 7½, 8½ pm.; Great Western, 7½, 8½ pm.; North Midland, 2½, ½ pm.; Danube and Mayne Canal, 1½, 1½ pm.; United Mexican, 3½, 4½; London and Westminster Bank, 1, 1½ pm.

## REAL DEL MONTE MINES.

The following Letter to the British Consul, Colonel Packenham, from Captain Rule, is of so interesting a nature that it cannot fail to be acceptable to our readers:—

**REAL DEL MONTE MINING COMPANY.**—*Mine Del Monte, Sept. 21, 1855.* In compliance with your request, I proceed to give you some account of the late operations of the Real del Monte Mining Company established at this place, and its present prospects. With its early history and its great sacrifices, you are, I presume, already acquainted. I therefore propose to confine this brief notice chiefly to what has occurred since May, 1853, the period when after a series of difficulties and disappointment, the drainage of the bottom of the mine of Santa Teresa, situated upon the Great Biscaina vein, one of the principal objects of the undertaking was effected. The richness and abundance of the ores found at this point fully warranted the favourable accounts thereof, which the company had received from the agents of the Conde de Regla. These ores were situated between the shafts of Santa Teresa and Terreros, at about a hundred varas below the adit, within a space of about 50 varas in length upon the vein, and hence there was extracted in 6 months after the bottom was cleared, an amount of produce, in value about 300,000 dollars. At the period already referred to, namely, the only accessible point for procuring ores was that already noticed between the shafts of Santa Teresa and Terreros; and had this continued as productive as when first opened, the concern would thenceforward have given a considerable and regular profit, but as the workings proceeded beyond the 100 vara level, the rich-

ores were found to be less abundant than they were above, and although the vein continued its usual size, and produced large quantities of ores for amalgamation or azogue ores, the falling off in the quantity and quality of the better kinds of ores caused such a diminution in the value of the whole produce, that its amount for some time past has scarcely been sufficient to meet the costs of the concern, and the result is, that within the last 3 years, notwithstanding several remittances of silver and money have been made to England for the purchase of stores, machinery, &c., they have been found insufficient for the purpose; and it has therefore been found necessary for the support of the concern to contract a loan of money in England, amounting to upwards of £20,000 sterling, besides another loan amounting to \$30,000, in the city of Mexico. While, however, the quantity of the best or smelting ore has diminished, the progress which has been constantly making in the lower parts of the mine by deepening the principal shafts, driving levels, opening new ground upon the vein, and clearing old workings has led to additional discoveries of azogue ores. This is more particularly the case in the workings named Las Ananias, and in the Esperanza and San Miguel's levels, west of Terreros shaft.

If, therefore, the best or smelting ores have become less abundant, and the prospects of making a profit consequently more remote, it is satisfactory to see that the change has been accompanied by the discovery of these azogue ores, which promises ultimately to compensate in a great degree for the want of the other and better sort. This variation, however, in the produce, although eventually it may not seriously affect the value of the concern, has occasioned immediate and considerable inconvenience, chiefly for want of hacienda power suitable for the class of ores, and sufficient to reduce what the mines are now capable of supplying. The rich ores, such as were found in abundance some time since could speedily and easily be realised by the Company's existing smelting works, and had they continued, they would in all probability have supplied not only the capital necessary to provide all the principal works required from the increased scale and extension of the concern, but a surplus profit for remittances to England.

Owing, however, to the variation in the produce already mentioned, we now experience the disadvantage of limited means, when funds are required for the construction of these works, and which have become necessary, chiefly in order to realise our discoveries. The most important of these is an addition to the grinding power of regla hacienda, proposed to be made by erecting arrastres, to be moved by the large overshot vertical water wheel which has long since been erected at this place, by which means it is expected that the reduction power of this establishment, as regards azogue ores, will be nearly doubled. The necessary machinery for the purpose is already ordered in England, and preparations are making at the hacienda for its reception. Besides this, it is in contemplation to commence very soon, the repair of the large hacienda of San Antonio, belonging to the Company, the prospects in the mine being such as to warrant the expectation of such an increase of azogue ores as may keep in operation this hacienda also. At the mines a new steam engine is now in course of erection, for the purpose of drawing the ores from under ground—being induced to adopt this method, from having experienced the utility of this kind of machine in England, and seeing the successful application of steam power here, where we calculate upon a corresponding advantage. In connection with this machine, also, we propose making arrangements calculated to check the robberies of rich ore which are now frequently committed. Other surface works, chiefly for the protection and security of the Company's property, such as walls for enclosing shafts, a new ore yard, with its necessary buildings, reservoirs, aqueducts, &c. &c. are also now in course of execution, with a view to place the concern upon a footing suitable to a more extended scale of operations and an increasing produce.

The great Aviadero Socubon, or adit, whose object it is to drain the principal mines belonging to the Company, has lately been carried on without interruption; and at the present time 400 varas from its mouth are completed, leaving, however, still to be accomplished 3,900 varas to reach the Biscaina vein. To facilitate the work, of which so much yet remains unfinished, two lumbreras, or adit shafts, are now sinking in the proposed line of the adit, by which it is intended to reach the adit level, and drive along it with a view eventually to communicate the whole. In this way, four points, in addition to the principal one, will be in operation. It is also intended to commence other lumbreras, with the same object, whenever the Company's means may admit, and thus hasten the completion of this work, which is likely to prove so beneficial, not only to the Company, but to the whole of the neighbourhood, by effecting the drainage, to a greater or less extent, of all the principal veins of the district. It should also be observed that the lumbreras, or adit shafts above mentioned, while they are arranged for the general object of facilitating the great work of the adit, are likewise disposed, each with a view of making trial of a mineral vein of some notoriety, on account of its former produce, the working upon which, however, having long since been suspended on account of the quantity of water, and the difficulty of drainage.

Looking at this concern, therefore, upon the whole, and as to the future, I cannot but regard it as one of much promise. A reference to the accompanying section will at once show, that of the several points formerly worked upon the Biscaina vein, comparatively very few have been brought into operation. A general progress, however, will always be making to a more general system of working, and one embracing a much greater extent of ore ground than has yet been attained. The workings at Dolores, which have already been very productive, and which were suspended about three years ago for want of a proper drainage shaft, will very soon be resumed. The shaft is now complete to the point A. (see the section), and as the sinking proceeds, the water may soon be expected to be drained from the point B. C., where the ores were best rich and abundant. In about 6 months, therefore, at the furthest, this place may be expected to be in full work, and will probably produce ores sufficient to relieve the Company from the temporary embarrassment now experienced, the ores from this point being chiefly of the class suitable for smelting, and therefore easily reducible by our present means.

Looking more remotely, first to the Biscaina vein. The workings of San Ramon and La Palma to the eastward (where the Regla family obtained their first great bonanza). To those of Guadalupe, Santa Agueda, San Francisco, besides several others beyond the limits of the drawing westward, will successively be brought into operation, and are likely, according to information received from several living witnesses, to supply the company with an abundance of silver ores of different classes. The veins also to the north of the Biscaina, and lying in the course of the great adit already mentioned, will gradually be brought into work under more favourable circumstances than formerly, inasmuch as their drainage will eventually be accomplished by the adit without the aid of machinery, and as several of them bear a high character, a reasonable hope may be entertained of their becoming also a source of prosperity to the company. The mines upon the Biscaina vein would never have been suspended by the Conde de Regla, had any method formerly practised in this country been capable of continuing the drainage. The means then used, however, were so imperfect, especially where, as in these mines, the quantity of water was so great, that it was only by directing great efforts to a single point that any progress could be made. Now, however, by means of steam engines, of which the company have 4 at work on the Biscaina vein, the drainage is effected with great ease and regularity, and affords the means of deepening the shafts, extending the workings, and pursuing discoveries at a great depth with a facility quite unknown under the former system. The great depth and extent of these mines, the crushed and ruinous state in which they were found, the bad arrangement and disposition of the principal shafts, and their unfitness for the reception of machinery, the difficulty and time required in transporting and fixing the machinery, and in rearing up an efficient and suitable establishment under the disadvantages arising from a mixture of persons of different nations and languages employed in the prosecution of the enterprise, have all contributed to retard its progress.

These difficulties being now in a great measure overcome, and looking at the resources of the company in the discovery of ores already described, and the productive points remaining to be examined upon the Biscaina vein, as well as upon the veins of Santa Brigida, Acosta, Moran, and others in the line of the great adit already mentioned; I am of opinion that the prosperity of this concern is fast approaching, and that the time is not far distant, being more advanced, it will become established and lasting. P. S. About the time of closing this letter, the despatches by the English July packet came to hand, by which I learn that at the general Annual Meeting of the Real del Monte Company, held in London, on the 29th of June last, it was resolved, to raise a new capital of about £45,000 sterling, and to pay off immediately the loans contracted in England and Mexico. As there will also be funds for the completion of the necessary works, the difficulties and inconveniences herein described will consequently be removed.

W. RULE.



## THE MINING INTEREST.

The Mining Committee held their Fourth Meeting at Pearce's Hotel, Truro, on Saturday, the 19th ultimo, the Rt. Hon. the EARL OF FALMOUTH in the chair. Mr. Scott's supplemental report was read by the secretary, and its consideration was ordered to be postponed to a future day. A string of resolutions were produced by Mr. Tremayne, which was directed to be printed for the use of the members of the committee previous to their being discussed at another meeting. The secretary was directed to make a digest of the reports of Messrs. Scott, Pauli, and Hill, which digest is to be submitted to the chairman for his approbation, prior to its being laid before and considered by the committee. The meeting was then adjourned until this day.

In pursuance of a notice signed by the Earl of Falmouth, a General Meeting of gentlemen concerned in the landed and mining interests of Cornwall, was held at Pearce's Hotel, Truro, on Tuesday last, in order that the noble Earl might lay before them an important communication which he had received from the commissioners of the Duchy, relative to certain claims of the Duchy lessees, and to the Memorial presented by him to the King thereon, in accordance with a resolution in that respect passed at the General Meeting held in December 1834. There were present, the Earl of Falmouth, Lord Boscawen Rose, Sir C. Lemon, Bart., M.P., J. H. Tremayne, G. S. G. Sauls, Humphrey Williams, J. S. Enys, E. E. Collins, E. Turner, J. Vivian and C. Caryar, Esqrs. Messrs. Chilcott, F. Hill, T. Teague, W. Reynolds, R. Davey, S. Davey, W. Davey, W. J. M. Tweedy, J. Williams, jun., C. Harvey, L. C. Danberg, R. Taylor, J. Harvey, and W. Michell; and other gentlemen and merchants connected with the mining interests.

The Earl of Falmouth having taken the chair, opened the business of the day by addressing the meeting to the following effect:—"He believed it was required of him to account for the shortness of the notice convening the meeting. It had so happened that under existing circumstances, he had only a choice between that day and the following, and for these reasons; Thursday would be a ticketing day, Friday would be new-year's-day, Saturday was appointed for the next meeting of the Committee on the Duchy Courts business, and which he thought it desirable should not be interfered with, and next week would be devoted to the County Sessions; he therefore considered it best for the last-mentioned considerations, and because he understood that Wednesday would be inconvenient to many gentlemen to attend, to convene the meeting for Tuesday. He thought it desirable that he should read to them the prayer of the Memorial founded on the resolution of the meeting in December last. He did not conceive it necessary to go through all the memorial, as it was the exact counterpart, *mutatis mutandis*, of the resolution, but the prayer he would read to them, in order to remind them of the points and objects they had in view. His lordship then proceeded to read the prayer accordingly, which was as follows:—that as an act of grace becoming the son of George the Third, in the early part of whose reign the *Nullum Tempus Act*, whereby the crown itself was barred from all claim after an adverse possession of 60 years duration, was passed; his Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct his confidential servants to originate a bill which shall remedy the omission in the act of 1768, and bring the Duchy of Cornwall at once within the operation of that Act of Parliament. The object of the memorial, they would perceive was to bring the duchy within the range of the *Nullum Tempus Act*. Perhaps they would allow him to refer for a moment to the last of the resolutions of which the memorial was an echo. The eighth resolution placed rather a plenary discretion in his hands. It was moved by a gentleman of the greatest ability and of first rate talent, Sir Colman Rastleigh, and as he differed with that gentleman on some most important points of a different nature, his lordship considered the compliment was, on that account much greater to himself (hear). He (Lord F.) took on himself a heavy responsibility, the discretion was a wide one, and if he had been anxious to avoid the trouble that had devolved on him, he should have acted prudently, if he had called to his assistance his neighbours, who might be concerned in the matter, for instance, Sir C. Lemon, Mr. Tremayne and others. His course was a plain one; his duty was a simple one; and he thought he might, with every hope of success, undertake the trust reposed in him (cheers); he felt that the object they had in view was as just and reasonable as ask of his Majesty, as Duke of Cornwall, as it would be just and reasonable in his Majesty to grant (hear). Under these circumstances he considered he was right in undertaking the trust put into his hands. It had never been the way of his family to reject any responsibility, and he could say for himself, that what he undertook, he did his best to carry into effect, and to obtain that which was required (hear). It was, therefore, with no ordinary feelings of satisfaction, that he had to announce to them, that the prayer of the memorial, which he had the honour to present to the King, was entirely acceded to. (Great cheers.) His Majesty, in his benevolence toward the inhabitants of his Duchy of Cornwall, and in his feeling of a sense of the justice and equity of their claims, in his goodness had been graciously pleased to accede to their most reasonable request (cheers). They would receive this favour as an act of graciousness on the part of His Majesty, and, in so saying, he had very little more to add besides reading to them the communication from the Commissioners of the Duchy announcing this important intelligence. Lord Falmouth then read the letter to the meeting, which was received with much approbation. His Lordship remarked, that its commencement appeared to be rather an anxious one; but they would observe, that it had not affected or interfered with the decision of His Majesty, the King, in his goodness towards his people. He anticipated, and had hoped he was not in error in entertaining such anticipation, that they had heard the letter read with the strongest feelings of gratitude and loyalty towards the King, because in proportion to the evils they had apprehended from the unjust claims of the Duchy Lessees, so, he submitted, ought to be the extent of their thankfulness—(hear, hear) they would agree with him on the point more particularly, when he assured them that Lord Lyndhurst had given his decided opinion as to the state of the law on the case, and had said that if it pleased the Duchy to recover those rights, it had undoubtedly the power to do so; that was the actual state of the law as laid down by Lord Lyndhurst. Then he would say, that where the legality of such claims was not doubtful, and after such authority as that he had quoted, they certainly were not, it behooved them to see that it was in the power of the King to prosecute those claims, if he chose to have done so—(hear). In consequence of this beneficent act of his Majesty, all persons who had inherited property by themselves or their predecessors for sixty years, would now be secured in its quiet enjoyment—(cheers). They would be enabled to hand it down to their posterity as they had received it, and he hoped they would recollect from whence that security came. He believed that as a county, Cornwall did not bear the character of a want of loyalty, and as men, he was sure, they would not be wanting in gratitude to their Sovereign. This subject was worthy of being dwelt on at greater length; but he anticipated that some one amongst them would have a vote of thanks to propose to the King, for his gracious concession. His Lordship then, in conclusion, said, that if any gentleman had such a vote to propose, he invited him to come forward—(cheers).

Lord Boscawen Rose then proposed a vote of thanks to his Majesty, after confessing that the concession of those claims was another proof, if proof were wanting, of the desire of the King to promote the interests and prosperity of this portion of his dominions—(applause).

J. H. Tremayne, Esq., seconded the resolution. In doing so, he observed, that he could not exactly understand the purport of that part of the important communication just read, which would not be followed by future encroachments on the Duchy lands; for he was not yet aware that any encroachments had ever been made (hear, hear). He, for one, was glad to have the present opportunity afforded him of giving expression to his sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the boon granted to them (hear). The resolution was then put from the chair, and adopted by the meeting unanimously. The Chairman observing, that if he might be allowed an opinion, he thought it ought to be thus carried.

A considerable discussion arose as to the manner in which the vote of thanks should be conveyed to the King, in which Sir C. Lemon, Bart., and J. H. Tremayne, Esq., Edward Collins, and Humphrey Williams, Esqrs., and others, took part. It was, however, ultimately agreed, that the resolution of the meeting should be immediately transmitted to His Majesty, through the Duchy Council, as being the most expeditious mode of communicating the sentiments of the meeting on the subject. An address, founded upon the above resolution, and to which signatures are to be appended, to be presented to His Majesty by Lord Falmouth at the earliest opportunity.

Edward Collins, Esq., proposed thanks to the noble Chairman, for his conduct in the Chair; and J. S. Enys, Esq., seconded the proposition; and his Lordship, in a very neat speech, returned his acknowledgments for the compliment paid him.

## PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

## ROYAL POLBEROU CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

A Special General Meeting of this Company was held at the George and Vulture Tavern, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, on Wednesday last, pursuant to advertisement. W. R. DEHAVY, Esq. in the Chair.

The Chairman having read the advertisement convening the Meeting, the Secretary proceeded to read the Directors' Report, as follows:—

The Directors in making their Report of the state of the affairs of the Company to the Shareholders, do not deem it necessary to enter into details of all the local difficulties which the resident Director, Mr. Alder, has encountered at the mines, by reason of Mr. Carne's refusal to submit to the resolution of the shareholders passed on June 11th last, removing him from the office of director. The reports containing those matters written by Mr. Alder to his co-director, Mr. De Tastet, are on the table, open to the inspection of any shareholder. It is, however, necessary to say, that the attempts of Mr. Carne and his agents, to create an ill-feeling against the present management, have been persevered in with so determined a spirit, that the property has been placed in jeopardy; not only has constant excitement been kept up amongst the men, but endeavours have been made to prejudice the merchants and tradespeople so as to impede the necessary supplies, and to prevent the smelters from buying our tin. Mr. Alder has, however, successfully combated these attempts, and our report will show that his exertions have brought the property into a beneficial state.

Mr. Carne, after his removal, detained the balance of the funds of the company, amounting to £1,180 at the banker's, Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Company, and this he did whilst by an account current, dated the 11th day of July, delivered to Mr. De Tastet, he admitted that he held a balance of cash in his own hands, amounting to £533 3s. 9d., he had, therefore, no claim upon the fund at the banker's. This circumstance, together with Mr. Carne's positive refusal to submit to the resolution of removal, placed the directors in the situation either of leaving Mr. Carne in possession of the property, or of compelling him to relinquish it. A bill in Chancery was, therefore, filed, and on the 1st of July, an injunction restraining Mr. Carne from further interference with the property was obtained, and put in force. By these means Mr. Alder obtained full possession of the mines on the 3rd of July last.

Captains Vernon, Ennor, and Keast, were dismissed by Mr. Alder, who, for a time, called to his aid a respectable person, Captain Stevens, a resident in St. Agnes, and this person Mr. Alder obtained until he could decide whether confidence could be placed in Captain Bennetts, who had been engaged by Mr. Carne, as a second captain, under Mr. Venan. Bennetts, it was discovered, had in fact been engaged to conduct the mine, Venan not being competent to do so; besides which, it has been discovered Mr. Carne had, without the knowledge of his co-trustees, appointed Venan as his managing captain of Bissoe Bridge Mines, which are situated seven to eight or ten miles from Polberou, the working of the latter, therefore mainly depended on Bennetts. Mr. Alder therefore kept Bennetts on the mine, and having watched his conduct, with the aid of Stevens, for about three months, was so satisfied of his capability, and of his faithful discharge of his duties, that he at once appointed him chief captain of the mines. Mr. Alder appointed Captain James Thomas as second, who rendered valuable services during the attempt to create convulsions in the mine, and retained Captain Kenrick, who had been engaged by Mr. Carne to more particularly superintend the sampling and regulating the stamping and returning the tin, and who has proved a faithful and steady agent, with these three persons. Mr. Alder has conducted the mine at a saving in captain's wages of ten guineas per month less than the former management. To enable Mr. Alder to conduct the mines, a sum of one pound per share was subscribed by the following shareholders, amounting to £775, viz., Messrs. De Tastet, Alder, Flintoff, Hutchinson, Carter, Concannon, Gillson; with this sum it was calculated that the operations could proceed without a general call. It was not, however, then known that heavy arrears were owing to the people on the mine by Mr. Carne; such, however, proved to be the case, and these arrears Mr. Alder was compelled to pay; had he not done so, your property would have been destroyed. Mr. Carne, having left the mine without accounts since March, and both Mr. Carne and his agents having repeatedly refused to answer any enquiries concerning them, there is no doubt the Company have paid items to the miners which were not due, but for the preservation of the property Mr. Alder deemed it prudent rather to submit to pay such rather than to endanger the mine.

In July and August, Mr. Alder paid exclusive of Tributary's accounts upwards of £830 to the men for wages, &c., left owing to them by Mr. Carne. In addition to which there was due to the merchants for debts incurred by Mr. Carne, £1,340, or thereabouts—the want of confidence these latter debts created was great. The Directors conceived, that as Mr. Carne was liable to the merchants for these debts, he could have no possible objection that he same should be discharged out of the fund at the bankers. A meeting was convened of the merchants at Truro. Mr. George Concannon met them and explained the circumstances, and offered, on behalf of Mr. De Tastet and Mr. Alder, to apply the fund at the banker's in discharge of those debts. Mr. Carne's solicitor attended the meeting, and concurred on Mr. Carne's behalf. Mr. De Tastet and Mr. Alder gave the necessary orders on the bankers, but Mr. Carne refused to ratify the pledge of his solicitor, and the debts remain unpaid. It subsequently appeared that Mr. Carne's alleged reasons for such refusal were, First, that the debts exceeded the funds at the banker's, and, Secondly, that he had not examined the merchants' accounts, incurred between the 31st of March and the 1st of July (the latter being the date of the injunction when Mr. Carne's responsibility as to debts ceased).

Subsequently to the foregoing meeting (in September, 1835), Mr. Carne sent in another account current to Mr. De Tastet, by which it appeared he had reduced the balance in his hands of £533 3s. 9d. to £53 14s., by paying the following items to himself, to his own firm, and others, viz., Messrs. Ward & E. C. Carne, £253 9s. 11d.; Mr. Carne, 6 months salary, £100; Hoskin, for carriage, 472 13s. 6d.; Sundry men, £53 6s. 3d.; in all, £479 9s. 8d. Some of the items in £53 6s. 3d. include expenses incurred by Mr. Carne in his opposition to the Resolution of the 11th of June, and on sending this account Mr. Carne expressed his readiness to acquiesce in the payment of the debts due up to the 31st of March, amounting to £533 4s. 6d. out of the fund at the banker's. In this Mr. De Tastet and Mr. Alder concurred, and so much of the fund was accordingly thus applied. The remaining debts amount to £391 15s. 6d., the fund at the banker's, and the balance in Mr. Carne's hands, as admitted by him, amount to £300 9s. 6d.; the debts, therefore, exceed the fund by £91 6s., and this amount Mr. Alder has repeatedly offered to pay, provided Mr. Carne would permit the remaining fund to be applied towards the discharge of those debts so far as it would go, but this he will not consent to unless he shall receive a written discharge from the present Directors, releasing him from all responsibility. This, pending the suit, the Directors could not, of course, give. The merchants have behaved exceedingly well, one house only having proceeded at law, at the suit of whom Mr. Carne's own solicitor has brought an action against Mr. Alder. Mr. Carne, the sole contractor of the debt, not having been included in the action. The amount is about £48.

Mr. Alder has been proceeded against by Mr. Carne's solicitor, on behalf of other parties, for labour and carriage, whose claims he had no means of checking; he thought it right to pay them, with costs of the writ, rather than defend, particularly as Mr. Venan furnished the solicitor with a written certificate of evidence to be given by him in favour of the claims.

Mr. Carne has been furnished with particulars of the leading objections to his accounts, to which he has replied—the papers are on the table for the inspection of the shareholders. The directors have not, however, deemed it to be their duty to take any steps in the chancery suit until they could hear the opinions of the shareholders thereon; its great object, possession of the mine, having been attained. Mr. Carne has not yet transferred the copper sett, to obtain which is another important object of the suit.

We now proceed to the state of the mine. Captains Bennett and Thomas gave it as their decided opinion, from the earliest period of Mr. Alder's management, that the mine, notwithstanding the produce which is raising, should (as the depth of our engine shaft would admit of it) be well thrown open by tutwork men, in order that operations by the tributaries might be more extensively carried on, than has hitherto been the case; for the ample extent of our sets affords us the opportunity of working very largely. Our engine shaft is now clear to the bottom at 35 fathoms below adit, and the time has now arrived when we can so extend

our operations beneficially. We have 13 shafts alternately at work; 3 agents, 1 clerk, 1 boy, 210 tributaries, 70 tutwork men, 2 engineers, 8 engine men, 61 men, consisting of carpenters, smiths, sawyers, masons, and labourers; 60 tin dressers, making in all 416. We have thrown open the following lodes which were anticipated in the prospectus.

*White's Lode*.—In the eastern part of the mine discovered, about 10 fathoms below adit, not much as yet done upon it. Nothing has been done upon it by the former workers below this level, and we have it dry for some depth, and are clearing to work upon it. *Treacance Lode*.—about the 20 fathom level, and very kindly. It is one of the best lodes, and producing good tin ores. *Laurie's Lode*.—About 25 fathom level we have some good tribute pitches on this lode, which is producing, and we have tut-workmen clearing for further operations upon it; this lode is small in size, but rich in quality. *Southhouse Lode*.—Many tributaries are working on this lode, from which great part of our produce at present comes, it is a large lode, and very promising; at the 10 fathom level, going east, we have a good bunch of tin, and the ground whole before and under this lode, as throughout the mine. We have whole ground before us, above and below 60 fathoms, dry upon this lode. *North-Arrow Lode*.—Western part of the mine; good and kindly upward, but does not seem to hold down; we have many tributaries raising tin here, and it is as of good quality as any in the mine. *Large Polberou Lode*.—Gozzan, with a very promising copper lode we are trying on tut-work. *Pie Lode*.—This is our deepest lode at present,—about 35 fathoms level—we have only recently cleared the ground to it, but we are raising good tin ores from it, and it is very promising.

Our engines and machinery, we are sorry to report, have been and are still very faulty, occasioning us delays and expenses, which have retarded our sales, and increased our costs. The founders attribute the blame to the orders which they received during the former management. The details appear in Mr. Alder's report. The 24 heads of stamps erected in the former management were unfortunately experimental, and are falling to pieces—new ones are in preparation to replace them. Mr. Alder has already erected 24 additional heads, so that shortly 48 heads of stamps will be at work; these will not however perform half the work of the mine and yet more must be added. The tin sold by Mr. Alder, and the tin on the mine together with the expenditure will appear in the accounts presented at this meeting. There is also a statement shewing what the mine has done since the 1st of July.

The accounts were then explained by Mr. G. Concannon, from which it appeared, that the debts remaining due, and incurred during the late management, were about £300, which, with dues, amounted to £370. To meet this, there remained of the original fund, at Messrs. Williams and Co., £208, which, with £53 in Mr. Carne's hands, amounted to £261.

Mr. Concannon said, that the present Directors would make up the deficiency. He also stated, that the present debt due to the merchants, now in course of payment, were about £1,100; the dues £260; sum advanced by a few Shareholders in June last, £775; to Mr. Alder, by the Bankers, £550; amounting altogether to £2,685. To meet these, the present Directors had at the Bankers in London, £55; Tin, in course of sale, £2,000, amounting to £2,055; shewing a debt of £630; being less than the sum which the present Directors had received from the Shareholders in June last. Mr. Concannon stated, that there was a profit of £860 upon the Mines during the last six months.

Mr. Alder then read the Engineers' Report; and in answer to several enquiries, stated that the mines were free from water, with the exception of one shaft; and that the great engine would unwater that part of the mine at present in work, but that two new boilers were wanted, and that indeed, all the engines required new boilers. This necessity, he said, was to be attributed to the original construction of the boilers, the plates of which were too thin. He, however, acquitted the founders from all share of blame, and said that it arose from positive orders that had been given as to the quality and price of the material. He further observed, that the engines had been inspected by Messrs. Hoeking and Lane of the Consolidated Mines, who stated in their Report, that the plates for the engine boilers were not originally sufficiently strong.

The first resolution was then moved, and unanimously carried. A great deal of discussion arose respecting the proceedings which had been carried on in Chancery. Some gentlemen requested that the charges against the late Director, and his replies thereto should be read; but the majority of the meeting seemed influenced by a more pacific feeling; and it was at length determined that all matters in dispute should be left to the report of a Committee to be appointed to investigate generally.

Mr. G. Concannon stated that a valuable copper lode had been discovered, and that a grant had been obtained; the counterpart of which was in the possession of Mr. Carne, who held it certainly as the officer of the company, but had not yet given up the deed, although the expenses of preparing it were paid for out of the company's fund.

A shareholder stated that he had received by that morning's post, a letter from Mr. Carne, expressing his wish to submit to arbitration; but the majority of the shareholders expressed a hope that the annoyance, expense, and delay of an arbitration might be avoided by the appointment of a committee.—The motion that a committee be appointed was then unanimously carried.

Mr. Vigors stated, that as they were at present only working for the population of the mine, and as more strength was wanted to render the works productive, he would propose that additional shares of £8 each should be created; £4 to be paid immediately, and the remainder after thirty days notice. The present shareholders to have the privilege of taking the additional shares up to the 15th of January next; and the public not to be supplied until after that period.

It was, however, determined that the present meeting was not at liberty to entertain the proposition, and it was therefore postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. Vigors then said that, as he understood the funds, at present in hand, were inadequate in carrying on the works he would suggest that gentlemen present should subscribe in advance of the additional shares anticipated, a sum of money necessary for continued operations. He (Mr. Vigors) thinking that the property was too good not to be strenuously supported. This suggestion was immediately acted upon. A resolution for another special meeting was then read.

The meeting was fully attended: it was stated that upwards of 1,600 out of the 2,000 shares were represented by the Proprietors in attendance.

Resolved that the Report of the Directors be approved and published, and copies printed for distribution among the Shareholders, to be had on application to the secretary.

That a committee of Shareholders be named to investigate the accounts pending between Mr. Carne and the Polberou Company, that it may be empowered to call for evidence in such manner, as it may deem necessary for the purposes of the investigation, and that it report the result; also their opinion as to the costs incurred in the Chancery proceedings hitherto, and the apportionment of any and mode of payment thereof, and generally their opinion as to the settlement of all the disputes which have hitherto unfortunately existed between the late Director and the Company.

That it is the opinion of this meeting, that Mr. Carne be required to give up the balance in his hands or under his control, and also that he be required to give up the copper grant, now in his possession, and to execute what may be necessary to render it effectual to the company.

That whether Mr. Carne accede to, or refuse the aforesaid requisitions, the committee be nevertheless required to proceed to the accomplishment of the object for which it is constituted.

Resolved, that the Committee consist of the following gentlemen:—Mr. Vigors, Chairman; Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Flintoff, Mr. B. W. Row, Mr. Geo. Wheelhouse; and that three should make a quorum.

Resolved, that a Meeting be advertised forthwith agreeably to the deed of regulation, for the purpose of appointing a third Director, and for proposing an increase of a certain number of shares.

Thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the Meeting adjourned.

## ROYAL WENDRON MINING COMPANY.

On Thursday last a meeting of Shareholders in this Company took place at the George and Vulture Tavern, Lombard Street, for the purpose of receiving a report from the trustees, relative to the state and prospects of the mines held by the company in Cornwall.

Colonel Mills took the chair, and after the advertisement convening the meeting had been read—

Mr. James Bullock read the report of the trustees, which was of a very favourable character. The Wendron Mines were stated to possess pro-



mining expectations, and the clearings of the old workings have been prosecuted under the most favourable circumstances. Captain Ketto, who was extensively connected with the mining property in Cornwall, had inspected the mines, and pronounced a very flattering opinion with respect to them. He recommended the erection of a new shaft, the more successfully to work the lodes discovered in the Ruby and Garlinda mines. For this purpose a 60 inch cylinder would be required. The trustees had hesitated to incur the responsibility of this operation without the sanction of the proprietors.

Captain Ketto's report was then read. It spoke in favourable terms of the prospects of the mines held by the company.

Mr. Hutchinson one of the trustees, addressed the meeting, and stated that no idea had been formed, that so many lodes existed in the mines, and he recommended that the company should adopt measures for placing the Ruby mine in an efficient state of working as soon as possible.

It was moved and carried that the report should be adopted, printed, and copies furnished to such shareholders as might apply for them to the solicitor of the company.

The solicitor then read the statement of the receipts and disbursements of the company. The former had amounted to £12,973 16s. 4d., and the disbursements, including £2,200, for the grant; £750 for the steam engine, &c., to £6,846 2s. 8d., leaving a balance in the hands of the company of £6,127 13s. 8d.

A proprietor asked Mr. Thomas, the mining captain, whether the ores of Wendron were not rich?

Captain Thomas replied, that they were as rich as any in the country, if not superior.

It was moved and carried that the accounts read be approved.

Captain Thomas then referred to the maps of the mines, and explained the workings as far as they had proceeded. They had discovered much more valuable lodes than they had anticipated, and with a 50 or 60 inch cylinder they would be enabled to work five or six lodes at a time.

A proprietor then moved a resolution to the effect, that it was the opinion of the meeting that the Ruby and Garlinda mines should be brought into full working as soon as possible.

A proprietor said, the report he had heard that day was exceedingly flattering, with the expenditure of only 4,500l. they had done more than was anticipated, having discovered a greater number of lodes than expected. He concluded by expressing his warmest thanks to the trustees, for the great attention they had paid to the interests of the company.

Mr. Hutchinson said, had the trustees had the least conception of the rich lodes in the Ruby and Garlinda mines, they would have commenced operations with them in the first instance.

A proprietor asked Captain Thomas how many lodes there were in the Ruby mine?

Captain Thomas said, he did not know, but he should think about 30. The vote of thanks to the trustees was then carried unanimously.

Mr. Hutchinson said the trustees were very much obliged to the shareholders for the vote of thanks passed in their favour. Their only desire was to make the property beneficial to all. They had paid as much attention to the undertaking as it was possible for a Board sitting in London to do.—(Hear.) They had been most careful in the selection of their agents. It would be seen by Capt. Ketto's report that they had taken measures to check their concerns at the mines. He again expressed his opinion in favour of placing the Ruby and Garlinda mines in a working state.

A proprietor said, he had been at the mines, and he could confirm the favourable report that had been made to the meeting. He had a notion to propose to mark the sense of the proprietors at the zeal displayed by Mr. Concanen on behalf of the company, no one deserved thanks better from Cornwall than that gentleman, and he concluded by moving a vote of thanks for his zeal and attention.

Mr. Hutchinson said he had witnessed the zeal and attention of the gentleman named.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Concanen said he could only thank them, and was highly compensated by their approval of his conduct.

Thanks were then returned to the chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

## MINING STATISTICS.

### EAST WHEAL CROFTY CONTINUED.

The numerous shafts sunk in this mine were long the terror of the neighbourhood, nor did the alarm subside even after they had been filled, for they would frequently give way and threaten the different buildings which had subsequently been erected with destruction, sometimes laying open terrific chasms at the very thresholds, and in one instance, in an inclement winter's night, carrying the greater part of a building, with its furniture, into the depths below, the family barely escaping in a state of nudity with their lives. The houses of water, as they are termed, contained in the sunken parts of the mine before alluded to, have been sources of terror to the labouring miners during the present workings, while driving towards them, through the high ground which intervened, and the hoing into one of them has been attended with fatal consequences to human life. This part of the mine was the first to yield returns, and is now very productive. At the Flat Road, or Rule's Shaft, a north lode has been discovered, which has produced great quantity of ores.

Not long since a course of ore, seven or eight feet big, was discovered in one of the levels going east in this part of the mine, and the other and deeper levels in the same direction were reported to be very promising. The flat road shaft is now being sunk under the 80 fathom level: this is the deepest point in the mine. Here then it is evident that there is considerably more than 100 fathoms of this fine lode yet to be explored in depth, and from its known good character it is by no means unreasonable to expect that it will be far more productive if properly proved, than it has ever yet been. It may be also worthy of remark that the old miners appeared to rest satisfied with such lode or lodes as chance or accident discovered to them; at any rate they took little or no trouble to cross cut the country for the purpose of intersecting others; hence the Long Close and Dudnass lodes have not been opened in this part of the mine. The Long Close and Dudnass mines were also worked heretofore with some success, but on a much less scale than Pool. On clearing these mines, their appearance was considered to be so kindly that it was resolved to put an engine on them; this engine shaft is now 34 fathoms under the adit, and present appearances justify the anticipations which were then formed. The Cherry Garden Mine was also worked by the old men on a small scale, and produced a considerable quantity of rich ores; the operations during the present working have not yet been extended into that quarter; but a level driven south from the Trevenson mine has recently intersected the Cherry Garden lode, on which they are now driving west. This lode, though not large, produces good ore, and will no doubt ere long lead them to something better. This brings us to the Trevenson mine, which was the main object had in view at the commencement of the present working; not so much for its own sake as for certain prospects which lay at some distance to the north, to which it was thought access might be had through her by cross cutting the country. This desirable object was the Wheal Crofty lode, which at that time was very rich, and continued so home to the great cross course which divides the sets. It was this circumstance which gave the mine the appellation which she now bears, East Wheal Crofty. What ever we may hear of courses of ore being left to stand in certain pitches and levels in old mines, on clearing them they are invariably found to be very poor. Trevenson was by no means an exception to this general rule; and the north lodes having hitherto been considered of primary importance, we believe that no very interesting discoveries have been yet made on the old lode. The engine shaft, however, is kept in a regular course of sinking, not merely for the purpose of cross cutting the country north at the deeper levels, but for extending levels east and west on the course of this lode, in order to give it a fair trial. This engine shaft is now 70 fathoms under the adit.

In driving north, in pursuit of their main object, namely, the intersecting of the Wheal Crofty lode, an important discovery was made by the cutting of the caunter lode. This has been denominated Reeve's lode, and is uncommonly productive. At the 33, the 43, and the 60 fathom levels, it shows some of the finest courses of ore in the mine, courses of ore such as are seldom met with on a lode of that description, and the returns from which constitute the major part of their large samplings. It is a fine champagne lode, being seldom less than two or three feet big, and sometimes extending itself to double or even treble those dimensions. The prospect at present far exceeds the most sanguine expectations, and there is not the shadow of doubt but that the present handsome returns will be considerably augmented as the operations are extended to the very many and

kindly points now in view. In short, there is not a single point in this interesting and valuable mine, which does not either yield ample returns at present, or raise the most rational expectations for the future. There are at present about 350 labouring miners employed under ground, and about 400 men, women, and children at the surface. The mine is under the management of Wm. Reynolds, Esq., whose high character and well-earned reputation needs no eulogy from us. The principal agents are Captain Wm. Petherick and Captain Nicholas Tredinck, who from their long experience and tried abilities may be considered in every way competent to the discharge of their arduous duties.

## MINING CORRESPONDENCE.

### ENGLISH MINES.

**NORTH CORNWALL MINES, Wheal Thomas, Dec. 19, 1835.**—It affords us great pleasure to be enabled to inform you of a considerable improvement in this mine in the 8 fathom level east. The lode in this level is about 4 inches wide, very rich, particularly in a part that is most likely to be of great value to the concern—in the bottom of the level, ground very soft, and such as lead ore is generally found in; from the present appearance of this end, ores in a much greater quantity may be expected. The end going west at the same level is still poor, with an improvement in the ground; this level is driven so far west as the rivulet, or thereabout. Report says there is a good lode gone below the adit level. About this place, we are also 12 fathoms from Ball's Shaft, which is sunk to the west of the rivulet, and we think it advisable to recommend the sinking of this shaft to the 8 fathom level; its present bottom is a little below the adit level. **Wheal Hope.**—The adit level is much the same as when we last reported; in the 12 fathom level the lode is 3 feet wide, composed of lead, mundie, jack, and spar, but not sufficient lead to pay for saving; in the 20 fathom level no particular alteration. The pumps are down about 32 fathoms below, which we expect will be in fork by Monday next, and then we shall drop the pumps 10 fathoms deeper.

JOHN BORLASE.

**Wheal Thomas, Dec. 26, 1835.**—You will perceive from our report of the 12th inst., that we had set 2 fathoms to drive south from engine shaft at 17 fathom level, and it affords us great pleasure to be enabled to inform you that we cut the lode at the extent of the 2 fathoms about 8 inches wide, 4 inches of the same very rich. We have two stones now in the caunter lode from this lode, about three-quarters of a cwt. each, and from a sample we have had assayed this week, we find that the lead produces 78½ in the 100 parts, silver 5½ ounces to the ton; from the appearance of the end, we may safely calculate on 2 tons per fathom. The men are now engaged in cutting a plat at this level, and as soon as this is completed, which we expect will be done by the middle of next week, they will then be put to drive east and west on the course of the lode, in a strata of ground much more favourable than any thing we have before seen at Wheal Thomas. At the same time we shall set 4 men to drive south at the 17 fathom level to cut other lodes, one of which we expect from survey to intersect at about 5 fathoms from shaft. The 8 fathom level east is not so good as mentioned in our last report; west end at same level much the same as last reported. The pitch in the back of the 8 fathom level set at 29s. is not worked with that spirit we could desire; one of the party has left the mine, the other is working on. The other two pitches are working on, but we cannot at present say what quantity they may have, as there is not, nor will there be, any of the lead dressed this month. **Wheal Hope.**—The water is in fork to the extent of the lifts, 32 fathoms below adit, and by Tuesday next we expect to drop 10 fathoms more. The adit end going east is not improved since our last report. In the 12 fathom level we have a large lode, composed of mundie and a small quantity of lead. In the 20 fathom level the ground is very promising, but the lode not rich; we expect by Tuesday to have our footway down to the 28 fathom level, and to be enabled to make a survey of the same.

J. BORLASE.

**EAST WHEAL STRAWBERRY MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—In extending the 15 fathom level, north of Grou's shaft, we have cut Trewthen middle lode, it is more promising than at the adit level, and its size increased from 6 inches to 2 feet wide. The men are sinking Grou's engine and whim shafts below the 15 fathom level, very satisfactorily, and also in extending the cross cuts north and south of Grou's shafts, and the adit level south from Trewthen south lode, east of Roberts's shaft. I anticipate that I shall have to communicate in an early report some specific information of a satisfactory nature respecting some workings in an extreme part of this mine.

W. PETHERICK.

**POLBREEN MINING COMPANY, Dec. 26, 1835.**—Our monthly setting has taken place this day, and beg to hand you the following particulars. At Stainby's engine shaft we shall complete cutting the whim plat, at the adit level about the end of the ensuing week, after which it will require the greater part of the month (January, 1836), to accomplish other necessary work at this level, such as opening ground for plunger, &c. &c. We have again set to clear, and cut down Vice's flat road shaft below adit, which has for the last month been suspended; in the mean time, however, the men have been employed in clearing a level at the shallow adit, on the course of the old men's workings, and have succeeded in taking up a considerable quantity of superfluous water. Thomas's shaft is nearly finished to the middle level, a few days more is only required to do so. We have this day broke some lode in the bottoms, or rather what we ought now to term a winze, we find it continues its usual size 4 feet wide, producing good work both for tin and copper; but until the said winze and Thomas's shaft are communicated to the deep adit level, we consider it altogether impolitic to attempt to raise any more work, it being certain that after the accomplishment of our intended plans, a very considerable saving will be effected. In the deep adit end driving westward, we are precisely in the same situation, we have a large lode (3 feet wide), and nothing can possibly look more promising, having what is commonly called, a leader from 6 to 9 inches wide, rich both for tin and copper; but on the same principle, therefore, we recommend you to wait patiently until the communication spoken of is properly made. In the adit end driving north from Wheal Harriet is in rather a hard stratum, but congenial to the tin mines in this neighbourhood. Very little has been done at surface of late in the masonry line, owing to the severe frosty weather.

RICHARD ROWE, JUN.

**TAMAR SILVER AND LEAD MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—Our progress during the past week has been considerably impeded by the neglect of the founders to perform their specific and repeated engagements, as to the timely delivery of the castings.

THOS. PETHERICK.

**PERRAN CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—The engine shaft men are cutting a cistern plat, and preparing other necessary work at the adit levels before we can commence to sink below. We have not raised so much lead ore from the east end on Mudge's lode this week as last, but the lode is still large and promising. We have an improvement on Anthony's lode westward, and have raised some good ores from this level this week. We have not yet cut this lode in the cross cut driving northward from Mudge's lode, but are expecting to do so daily. We are getting on very favourably with our underground work generally.

JAN. GRIFE.

**REDMOOR CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—Since the 21st instant the ground in driving the 20 fathom level east of Johnson's shaft, has become more favourable for extending it speedily in that direction, and we hope very shortly to intersect the lead lode. The 30 fathom level is being driven in that direction very satisfactorily. Johnson's lode at the 10 fathom level, driving west, is just the same as last reported. The engine shaft is about 3½ fathoms below the 10 fathom level, and sinking in a stratum of promising killas, as noticed in my last. W. PETHERICK.

**SOUTH WHEAL LEISURE MINING COMPANY, Dec. 26, 1835.**—This week I have only to report of our progress in sinking the engine shaft; and I am happy to state that the ground is still favourable, and the water by no means busy. We are now below adit above 8 fathoms. Nothing has been done this week at surface with the masons on account of the frosty weather.

R. ROWE, JUN.

**EAST CORNWALL SILVER MINES, Dec. 28, 1835.**—In furnishing a report on these mines, I beg to inform you that we have no material alteration in any part of our underground operations since our last communication. The Wheal David lodes still continue together—we have broken this day, from the south lode, some very fine stones of yellow and grey copper ore, and which we believe contains silver; we shall assay it tomorrow. We have set a downright shaft on Wheal Georgiana adit end, to be called Atkinson's Shaft, at 134, for ten fathoms, and the takers commenced sinking this day. The lode in the end going east is large and more kindly than it was last week. An extract from a letter, dated the

26th inst., from Messrs. Harvey and Co. of Hayle Foundry reads thus—"The Chyandour is engaged to come here, and we are daily expecting her, when we shall forward without delay the remaining parts of the East Cornwall engine." The boilers and flues are all complete except the fire doors. The condensing work is also complete, except the induction pipe, and in fact everything as far as we can go, until the arrival of the remainder of the castings.

JOHN BUDOR.

**BRITISH TIN MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—The ground in our cross cut north is harder than it has been in the week—we suppose we are near a lode; the water continues to sink in the winzes in the bottom of the adit. The ground in the adit end west on Dyer's lode is just the same; we expect to leave down the water in a short time; we have two tributaries working on Fagan's lode, at 12s. 6d. in the pound—this pitch is paying.

J. BRAY, JUN.

**ROCHE ROCK MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—The appearance of the lodes in the levels now driving, and pitches set on tribute, justify my former reports, that there will in future be an increase in the monthly returns of tin—the extent of that increase will depend upon the continued improvement of the lodes. We have set another pitch at the 60 fathom level on the south lode at 5s. 9d. tribute. We have again set the 40 fathom level to drive south from Trestrail's shaft to cut the south lode.

J. TRESTRAIL.

**CARNE GREY MINING COMPANY, Dec. 26, 1835.**—We have nothing new in this mine since I wrote you last. We have sunk our engine shaft about 4 feet, and have driven the 12 fathom level west about 8 feet—the lode is still regular, but poor—the cross cut in the 12 fathom level, to the east of the shaft, driven about 3½ fathoms; Minear adit level is driven 7 feet, and the deep adit about 9 feet; the ground upon the whole is just as it was last Saturday.

R. RODDA.

**REDRUTH UNITED MINING COMPANY, Dec. 28, 1835.**—I cannot say anything more or less of the lode in any bargain in the mine than was stated in my last as it has much appearance and size. The tin, and tin stuff, was sold on Wednesday and Thursday last.

	£	s.	d.
The amount of the former being.....	31	16	4
And the latter .....	245	18	6

Making a total of.....£277 14 10

At Buckett's the branch at present, in the adit level, assumes a more favourable appearance than I stated in my last. R. GOLDSWORTHY.

**ST. HILARY MINING COMPANY, Dec. 26, 1835.**—The progress making in sinking the new engine shaft on Wheal Leeds, continues very satisfactory. We are now 21 fathoms under the adit, and have put men to drive at the 20 south, towards the old workings—they have already driven 9 feet, and I confidently expect that in a week or ten days, we shall totally unwater the whole of the mine to that depth, and be able at once to ascertain the precise nature and full extent of former operations, and have it in our power to extend and open new ground. We shall nevertheless continue to sink the new engine shaft with unabated perseverance to unwater the mine to bottom. Men in the Whim shaft continue to collar and secure to adit; it has been and continues a tedious and troublesome job, but we shall accomplish it quite in time.

C. N. BEATER.

**TRELKIGH MINES, Dec. 26, 1835.**—I beg to inform you that our prospects and pursuits are much the same as stated in my report of last week. The engine shaft men are getting on slowly, occasioned by the increase of water, and the ground rather hard, but we keep them to work stem-time, and nothing more can be done until we get our engine to work. The men have driven on Wheal Shanger lode, nearly 6 feet in a large lode, composed chiefly of mundie and spar, with a little ore. Wheal Christie lode is much the same as I particularized last week; the men have driven 5 feet. The rise from the deep adit has produced good ore during the week, but at present the lode is small, and they have nearly holed, when I hope to set a pitch in this place, and resume the adit end; the winze is much the same. On the south lode the men have driven about 4 feet, the lode is 8 inches wide, composed of ore mundie and jack in a fine spar, likely in depth to be very productive. In the shallow adit, on Wheal Maria lode, it is much improved, 2 feet wide, a fine gossan and good ore; the men have extended about 5 feet. In the shallow adit, east of the engine shaft on the little lode, the men have driven 6 feet; the lode continues well, and in this level we are opening some good ground for tributaries. We have finished clearing up the western shaft, and although just under the shallow adit, I fear the water may be troublesome in sinking. For the future prosecution of the mine, for air, &c. we must endeavour to communicate it with the deeper level.

W. SINGOCK.

**BRITISH COPPER MINING COMPANY, Dec. 30, 1835.**—The engine shaft is down about 5 fathoms below the 42; ground very favourable, and if it continues so, there is not the least doubt but that we shall be able to reach the 52 by the end of next month. In the 52 west the lode is improved; it is 7 feet big, leader 6 inches. The remainder saving work. The lode in the 52 east has a more settled appearance than it has had for several weeks past, yielding good stones of ore. The lode in both ends of the 42 fathom level, is from 4 to 5 feet big, yielding from 2 to 3 tons of ore per fathom.

J. STEPHENS.

**ALBION MINING COMPANY, Dec. 29, 1835.**—The lode in the 60 fathom level east from the cross-cut on the caunter lode is 2½ feet wide, composed of spar with a little ore. The lode in the 60 fathom level east from engine shaft is 3 feet wide, poor. The lode in the 60 fathom level west from engine shaft is 4½ feet wide, producing little ore. We have 3 fathoms more to drive to come under the west winze; after this is done we may expect a better return from this end. The 60 fathom level is driven north from engine shaft towards the north lode 3 fathoms 4 feet, probably we have about 9 or 10 fathoms further to drive to cut it. This lode is standing above unwrought 19 fathoms, which we deem a good speculation, as there are ores gone down under the 40 fathom level. The lode in the winze under the 47 fathom level west from engine shaft, is 5 feet wide, producing a good branch of ore towards the west end. The lode in the winze under the 47 fathom level east from engine shaft, on the caunter lode, is 2 feet wide, producing large and good stones of ore. The lode in the 47 fathom level east from engine shaft is 2 feet wide, producing near half a ton per fathom. This lode has a promising appearance. The lode in the 40 fathom level east from engine shaft is 6 feet wide, composed of caple and spar, with a little ore. I am glad to state we have an increase of tributaries in the mine, as you will perceive by our setting report: the pitches were set at a lower tribute than formerly. We have seen the lode 6 feet wide at the bottom of Mithian engine shaft, and have not seen the north wall: appearances much the same as stated in our last week's report. The lodes in the different levels in this mine are still very large, and produce stones of ore occasionally.

J. MIDDLETON.

**ENGLISH MINING, Dec. 29, 1835.**—I am duly favoured with your letters of the 24th and 26th inst., I am, as you may well conceive, much pleased with the intelligence contained in the former, of the removal of the injunction, which has spread dismay among the ranks of our opponents. I had anticipated the instructions contained in Mr. Bourdillon's communication of the 26th, and have given notice to the agents of the several copper companies of my intention to offer for sale on Thursday next the 4 parcels of ore amounting to 194 tons, which were withdrawn on the 26th of November and 24th of December, and have also given notice of our intention to sample on Tuesday next, those ores which have remained at surface and underground unsampled since the serving the injunction. In consequence of Christmas falling in the past week, a considerable interruption has taken place in the underground department of the mines, which precludes me from reporting anything particularly new; one circumstance, however, remarkably gratifying is, that of the south lode in the eastern end of the 10 fathom level having greatly improved during the past week, the produce of it being now 4 tons per fathom instead of 2. The western end is also looking pretty well.

## MISCELLANEA.

**Barton's New Safety Boiler.**—Mr. J. Barton, the well-known ingenious engineer, has, we are informed, just completed a new invention, which promises to be of great utility as an improvement in the construction of steam engines, and also of importance as a means of diminishing the hazard to which the personal safety of individuals is now exposed, wherever steam-engines are used. This invention consists in a safety boiler upon an entirely novel principle, and which is so contrived as to afford every protection against injury from explosion. Independently of this primary recommendation, we understand that it combines the further advantages of cheapness in the original cost, and economy in the consumption of fuel. Mr.



[illegible]



